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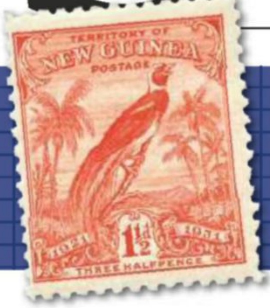
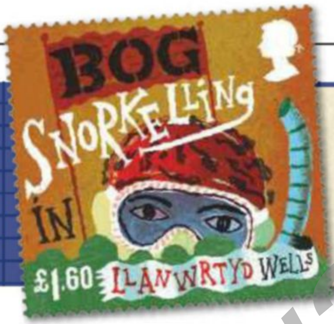
MOON LANDING SPECIAL ISSUE

STAMP MAGAZINE™


TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA
POSTAGE
1½
THREE HALFPENCE

New Guinea's iconic bird of paradise motif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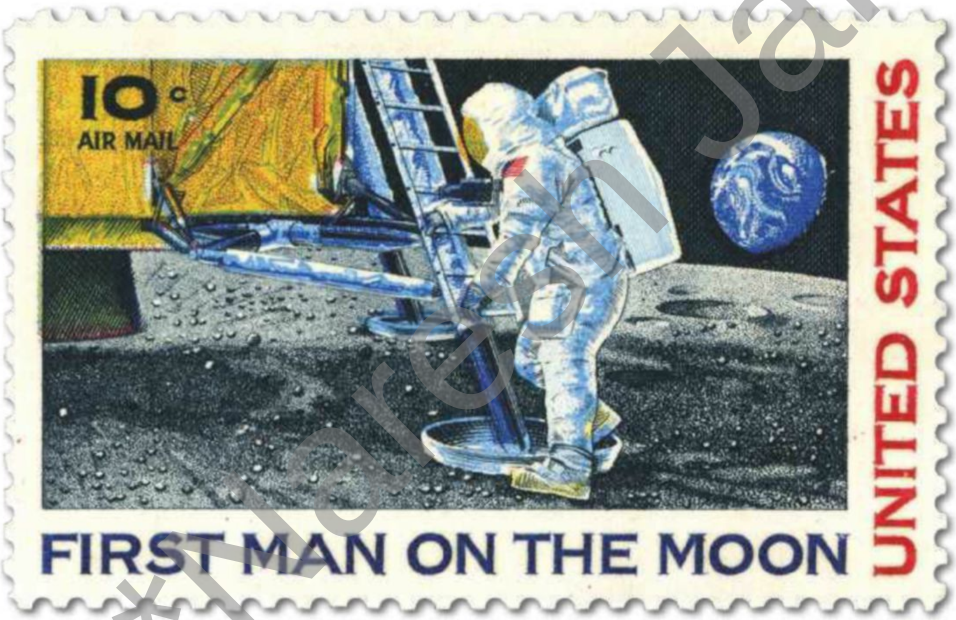
Eccentric British customs in Royal Mail's spotlight

Man on the Moon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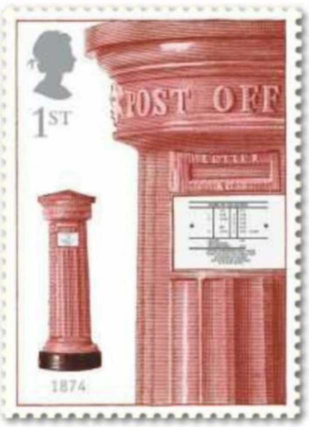
- The best 25 commemoratives in the 50 years since Apollo 11

Black magic

New series investigating Penny Black postal history

British postboxes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MAGAZINE

WELCOME

I can confidently predict that many collectors are going to abhor Royal Mail's new stamp issue featuring Curious Customs (see page 20).

They are going to say the designs look childish, and they have a point. They are going to complain that many of the folk festivals and community events celebrated by the eight stamps are quite obscure, and they have a point.

Before you dismiss it, however, will you permit me to put a more positive spin on the set?

In a year when we have seen stamp issues commemorating the artistry of the Florentine Renaissance and the imagination of American comic strips, a quintessentially British theme is welcome. And what could be more eccentrically British than snorkelling across a muddy bog or chasing a cheese down a precipitous incline?

In a year when the majority of stamp issues have reproduced existing images, from classic stamp designs to World War II photographs, newly commissioned artwork is equally welcome.

In investigating the selected subjects in detail, I've been fascinated to learn about where they happen, what they entail and how they evolved. Even if I consider some of these customs rather too quaint or bizarre for my personal taste, I've discovered a little bit more about the country I call home, or at least some of its quieter backwaters!

Yes, the set appears immature and frivolous. But look again at the special issues you remember fondly from the early 1960s. Were their designs really more sophisticated? Were their themes as entertaining?

GUY THOMAS, Editor
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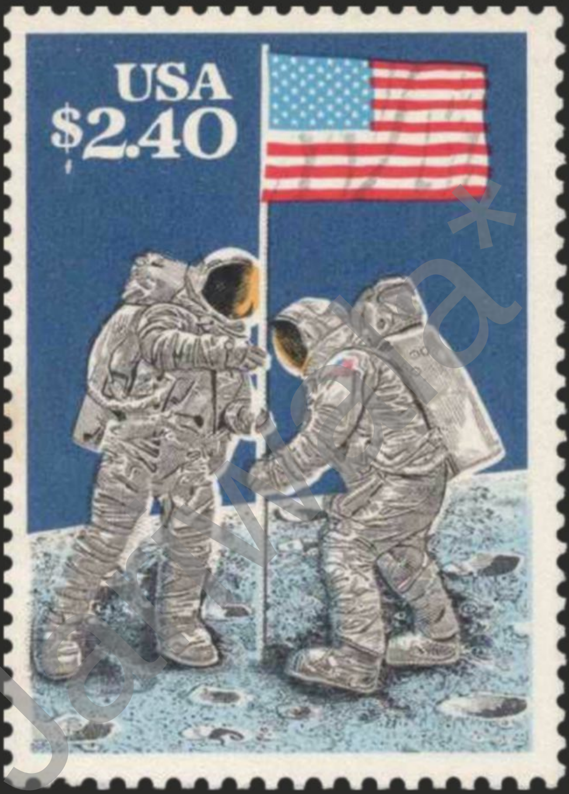

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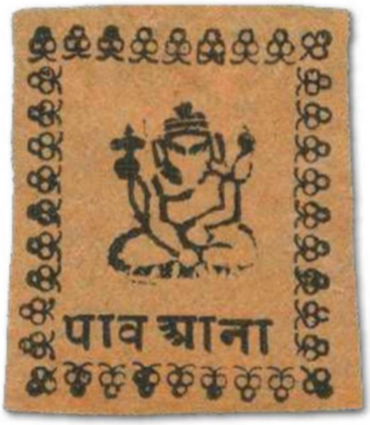

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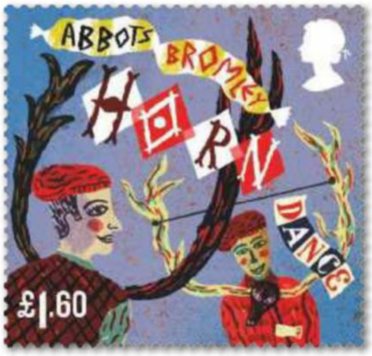

20 Full details of the Curious Customs set

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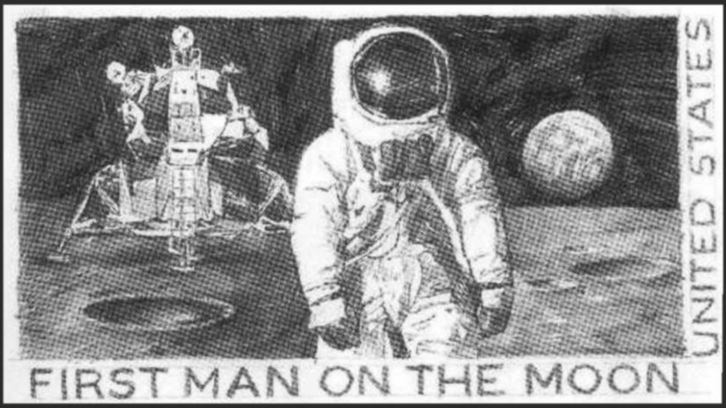
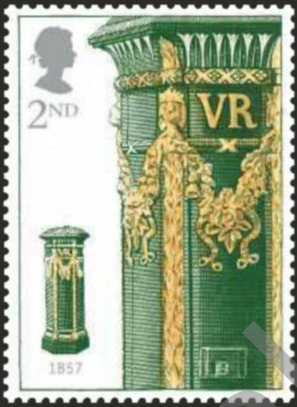
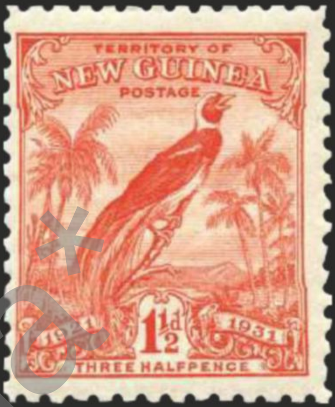

UNITED STATES
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON

36 How the United States' famous 1969 Moon Landing stamp was designed and printed



58 Many faces of the British postbox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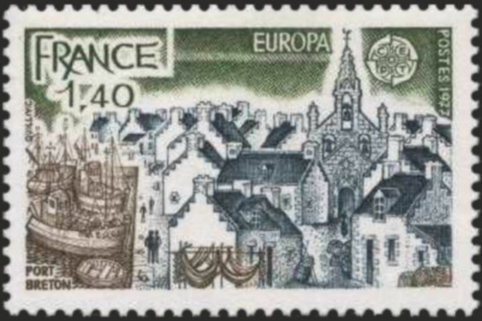
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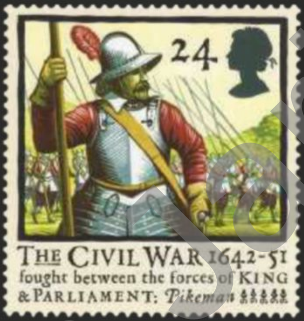
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68 Military uniforms as a GB theme

65 The start of a new series studying Penny Black covers

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36 USA 1969 MOON LANDING ISSUE

The single stamp inscribed 'First Man On The Moon' will never be rare, but will always be iconic. We reveal the story behind its design, and the unique journey made by its master die

46 APOLLO 11 COMMEMORATIVES

The first Moon landing has been philatelically celebrated around the world, especially on its major anniversaries. How much is there to collect, and which issues are the pick of the bunch?

58 CELEBRATING THE BRITISH POSTBOX

It is far from homogeneous. It can be blue, green, gold, even pink. More shockingly, it has received some pretty rough treatment over the years.

43 COMMONWEALTH CLASSICS

How a pictorial stamp issue helped to make the bird of paradise a national symbol of New Guinea

54 GREAT ENGRAVERS

René Quillivic engraved around 250 stamps for France, with a precise touch and a Breton flourish

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The first in our new series on Penny Black covers examines a 'May dates' multiple

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Military uniforms have often been paraded on British stamps, and it's a well-polished theme

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The stamp inspired by two Hungarian aviators, a British press baron and an Italian dictator

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Win a Queen Victoria presentation pack!
Or a copy of our GB price guide!
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QUEEN VICTORIA BICENTENARY

'Why does Royal Mail think that Marvel superheroes are more relevant to Britain than cricket?'

see page **26**

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50th anniversary of the first Moon landing celebrated by the USA

The United States has issued two stamps commemorating the 50th anniversary of the first Moon landing by a manned spacecraft.

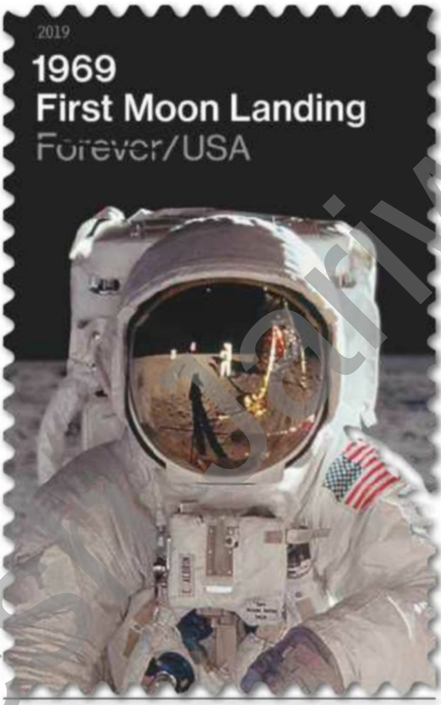
One design features a colour photograph of *Apollo 11* astronaut Buzz Aldrin on the surface of the Moon, with his fellow astronaut Neil Armstrong and their lunar module visible in the reflection from his visor.

The other has a photograph of the Moon, with *Apollo 11*'s landing site in the Sea of Tranquillity indicated by a yellow dot.

Both are non-denominated Forever stamps for domestic postage, currently sold at 55c.

Armstrong and Aldrin became the first humans to set foot on the Moon on July 21, 1969.

Armstrong died in 2012 but Aldrin is still alive, aged 89. The rule that identifiable living people should not be portrayed on US stamps has been sidestepped in this case, as it was for the famous commemorative stamp of 1969 (see page 36).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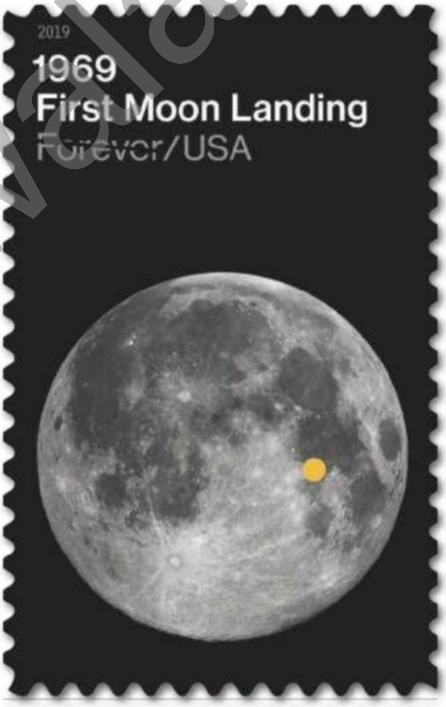
1969
First Moon Landing
Forever/USA


2019
1969
First Moon Landing
Forever/USA

British territories commemorate D-Day together

Gibraltar, Guernsey, the Isle of Man and Jersey all released stamp issues marking the 75th anniversary of D-Day, and produced a joint cover featuring one stamp from each territory.

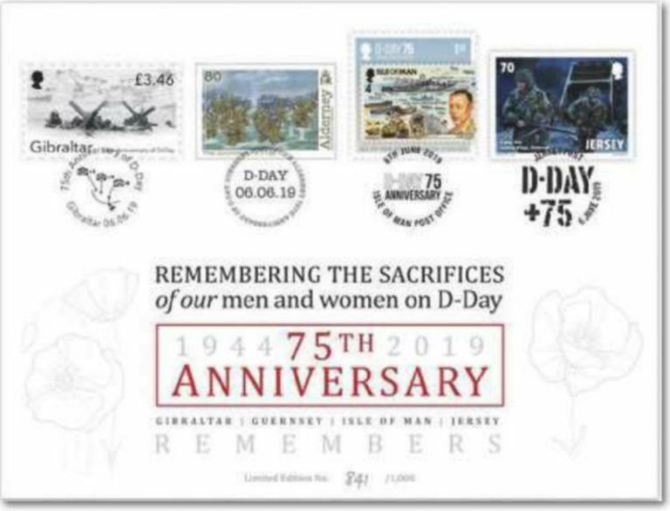
Gibraltar's set of four reproduced original photographs and focused on the seaborne landings, showing allied soldiers leaving landing craft and wading ashore on the beaches of Normandy.

Guernsey's issue was an Alderney set of six featuring specially commissioned paintings of battle scenes, including Sword beach, Pegasus Bridge and naval and air attacks on German defences.

The Isle of Man issue was a stamp-on-stamp set, with eight designs in se-tenant pairs reprising its 1994 issue, whose artwork illustrated the invasion force by land, sea and air, and portrayed some of the military leaders.

Jersey's 2019 issue is a commemorative overprint on machine-vended Post & Go stamps, but it is one of its 2014 stamps marking the 70th anniversary that is used on the joint cover.

The cover was produced in a limited edition of 1,000. Each stamp is tied by a special postmark of the relevant country, dated June 6.

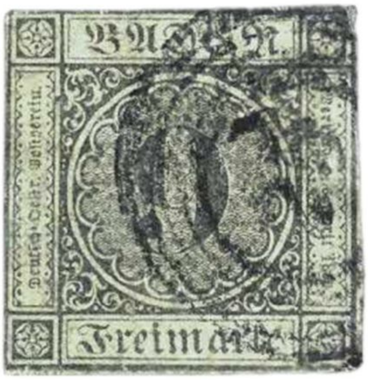

£3.46
Gibraltar
80
Alderney
70
JERSEY
D-DAY 06.06.19
75 ANNIVERSARY
ISLE OF MAN POST OFFICE
D-DAY +75
REMEMBERING THE SACRIFICES
of our men and women on D-Day
1944 75TH 2019
ANNIVERSARY
GIBRALTAR | GUERNSEY | ISLE OF MAN | JERSEY
REMEMBERS
Limited Edition No. 841 /1,000

76
Alderney
76th Anniversary of D-Day

70p
Gibraltar
75th Anniversary of D-Day

Naresh Bagriwala

German States rarity found in family album



A rarity of German States philately which could fetch a seven-figure sum has been discovered in a family album in the United States.

It is only the fifth recorded example of the celebrated error of colour from the first issue of Baden in 1851: the 9k black printed on green paper, rather than the usual red paper.

The stamp is postally used, cancelled with the four-ring numeral postmark of Konstanz. It has a fault in the upper right corner and two thins on the reverse, but has been expertised and declared genuine.

Of the four previously recorded examples of the error, three are also used: one on piece and two on entires. The only unused stamp was auctioned by David Feldman in 2008 for €1.3m (about £1.15m).

The anonymous finder reported that the stamp had been lurking in the family collection for generations.

It is expected to be sold by private treaty, through the American auctioneer Daniel F Kelleher.

Ireland stamp honours Alcock and Brown

A stamp from Ireland celebrates the 100th anniversary of the first non-stop transatlantic flight, by the British aviators John Alcock and Arthur Whitten Brown in 1919.

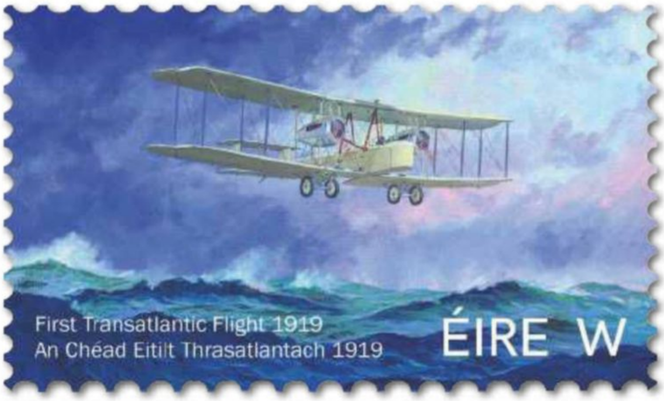
The non-denominated stamp illustrates their Vickers Vimy biplane, a modified wartime bomber, flying low over a rough ocean, emphasising its apparent fragility for such a momentous task.

Having taken off from St John's in Newfoundland on June 14, 1919, the aircraft crash-landed the following day in a bog near Clifden in Galway, Ireland, after a 16-hour flight.

It had been a perilous journey, made more so by fog, snow, freezing temperatures and a failed electrical generator.

The international acclaim which this first non-stop crossing received was comparable with that of the first Moon landing, almost exactly 50 years later.

Alcock, from Manchester, and Brown, from Glasgow, were knighted by King George V several days later.

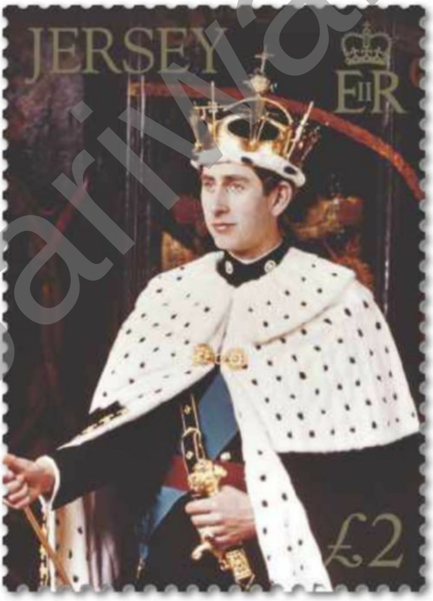

First Transatlantic Flight 1919
An Chéad Eitilt Thrasatlantach 1919
ÉIRE W

Investiture of Prince of Wales remembered

Both Jersey and Guernsey have produced stamp issues to mark the 50th anniversary of the Investiture of the Prince of Wales.

Jersey's offering is a set of four stamps and a £2 miniature sheet, while Guernsey's is a stand-alone £2 miniature sheet.

Both high-values use photographs of a 20-year-old Prince Charles in full regalia, taken during the ceremony at Caernarfon Castle on July 1, 1969.



International crowd gathers at Stockholmia

The Stockholmia international exhibition in Sweden attracted almost 8,000 visitors over six days in May and June, from 51 countries.

More than 2,000 frames of displays comprised an array of material from members of the Royal Philatelic Society London, an exhibit from the Royal Philatelic Collection and Gustaf Douglas' collection of classic Sweden, including the unique Treskilling Yellow error of colour.

A total of 70 large gold and 96 gold medals were awarded, and 200 lectures and seminars held.

The event also hosted the ceremonial signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, and a remarkable 44 of the 83 living RDP signatories were present, which is an all-time record.

NEWS IN BRIEF

> The organisers of the world stamp exhibition in Wuhan, China, in June claimed it attracted more than 400,000 visitors.

> Enfield Stamp Centre, one of the few remaining stamp shops in north London, will close down on August 3, with the retirement of its proprietor Ron Grierson.

> The Board of Secondary & Higher Education in Goa, India, has directed all its educational institutions to set up stamp clubs, promoting philately as a scientific study and an aid to personal development. It says the hobby arouses curiosity, encourages analysis, teaches patience and fosters friendship.

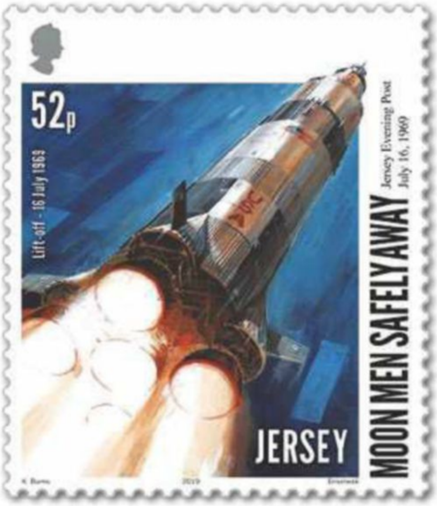
> Forthcoming Europa stamp themes have been announced as Endangered National Wildlife for 2021 and Stories & Myths for 2022.

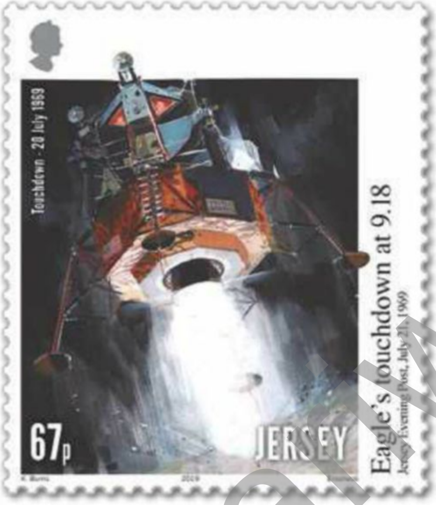
> Kiribati has celebrated the 40th anniversary of its independence with a miniature sheet of four stamps illustrating sea birds in flight over the Pacific Ocean. The republic was formerly part of the British colony known as the Gilbert & Ellice Islands.

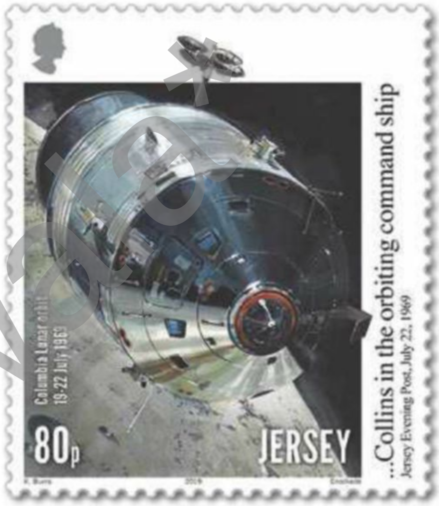
> The President of the Royal Philatelic Society London, Patrick Maselis, presented the head patron of the Stockholmia exhibition, Gustaf Douglas, with a replica of the Treskilling Yellow (which Douglas owns) made of chocolate.

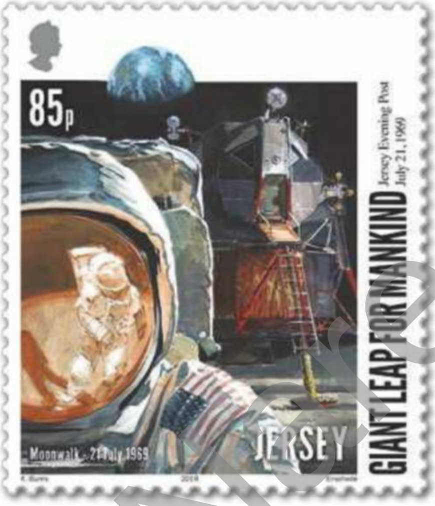
NEW ISSUE

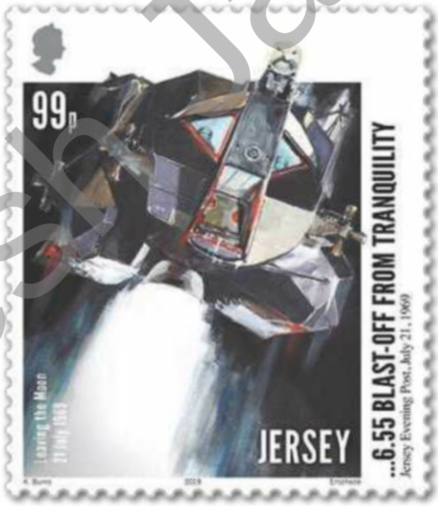
A British perspective on the first Moon landing

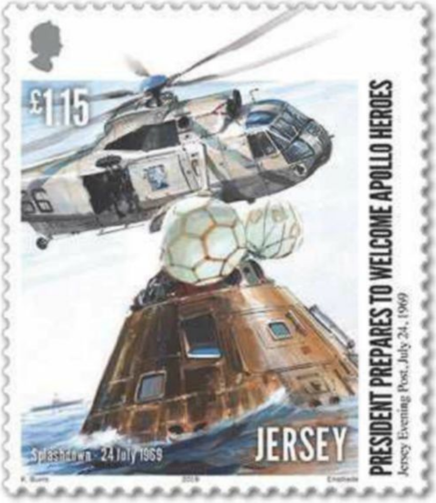

52p
Lift-off - 16 July 1969
JERSEY
MOON MEN SAFELY AWAY
Jersey Evening Post
July 16, 1969


Touchdown - 20 July 1969
67p
JERSEY
Eagle's touchdown at 9.18
Jersey Evening Post, July 21, 1969


Columbia Lunar orbit
19-22 July 1969
80p
JERSEY
...Collins in the orbiting command ship
Jersey Evening Post, July 22, 1969


85p
Moonwalk - 21 July 1969
JERSEY
GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND
Jersey Evening Post
July 21, 1969


99p
Leaving the Moon
21 July 1969
JERSEY
...6.55 BLAST-OFF FROM TRANQUILITY
Jersey Evening Post, July 21, 1969


£1.15
Splashdown - 24 July 1969
JERSEY
PRESIDENT PREPARES TO WELCOME APOLLO HEROES
Jersey Evening Post, July 24, 1969

Naresh Jainwal

To mark the 50th anniversary of the first Moon landing in 1969, Jersey has issued a set of six stamps and a miniature sheet recalling the *Apollo 11* mission from a local perspective.

The stamps feature original paintings of key parts of the American mission, in each case accompanied by a contemporary headline or quote from the local newspaper, the *Jersey Evening Post*, to show how the story was reported at the time.

The 52p value shows Apollo 11 taking off from Florida on July 16, and the headline 'Moon men safely away', while the 67p illustrates the lunar module landing on the Moon on July 20, prompting the headline 'Eagle's touchdown at 9.18'.

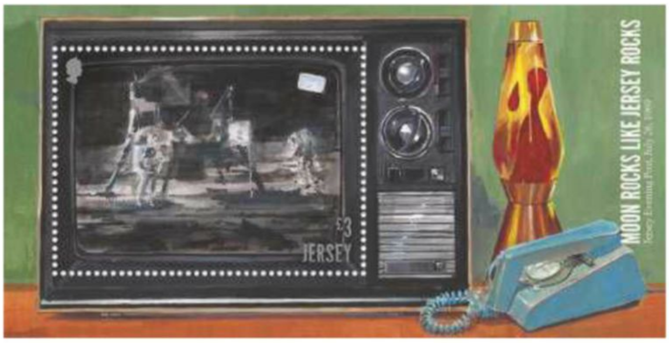
On the 80p we see the command module *Columbia* in lunar orbit and a quote reminding us of Michael Collins' lonely vigil there, while on the 85p his fellow crewmen Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin are shown walking on the surface on July 21, beside a headline repeating Armstrong's famous phrase 'Giant leap for mankind'.

The 99p value features the take-off from the Moon later on July 21, while the *JEP* records '6.55 blast-off from Tranquility'. Finally, the £1.15 stamp shows splashdown in the Pacific Ocean on July 24, with the headline 'President prepares to welcome Apollo heroes'.

The date of an event and date of the newspaper report differ in places, due to time zone differences and printing schedules.

The evocative miniature sheet illustrates the screen of a period television, around which many people huddled to watch events unfold in real time, albeit in blurred black and white. In the margin, a 1960s telephone and lava lamp complete the scene.

The stamps were illustrated by Keith Burns and printed by Enschedé, in offset lithography with metallic silver ink.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JERSEY
MOON ROCKS LIKE JERSEY ROCKS
Jersey Evening Post

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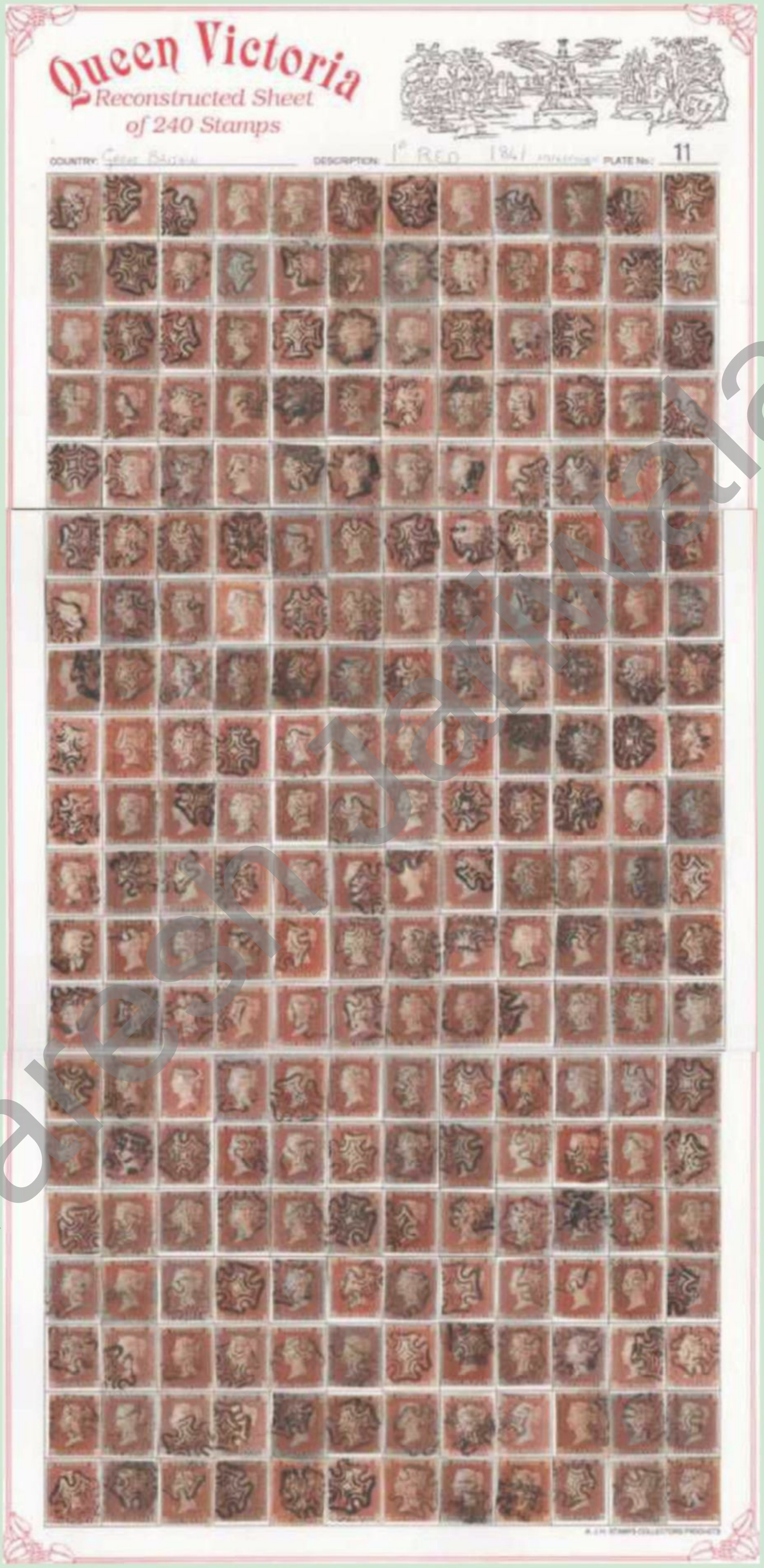
Queen Victoria
Reconstructed Sheet of 240 Stamps
COUNTRY: Great Britain
DESCRIPTION: 1d RED 1841
PLATE No: 11

Naresh JainMala

PO Box 10494, Grantham, Lincolnshire,
NG31 0HS, United Kingdom
01476 594698

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The **Peter Favier Collection** of **New Zealand Health Covers**

This will be sold by Postal Auction by well known New Zealand specialist J M A Gregson. The collection builds and expands upon the extensive work of the late Tom Latto into early Health issues with covers from unusual Health Camps such as Raukawa, Riverton, Campbell's Bay etc. There are detailed collections of most years and all years are represented with 1929, 1930, 1931 (2), the 1933 illustrated cover is an example unlisted in the Stephen Jones 2008 handbook. There are rare 1934 FDC with Auckland, Dannevirke, Dunedin, Highfield, Hinuera, Kawakawa, Tauranga, Wellington (2) covers. The rare 1932 label is represented by a block of four, the Waikato labels by a full sheet of 7. Later years are strongly represented by a wide range of different designs, many of them rated very highly or unlisted in the Jones handbook.

There are over 700 lots with estimates between £1 and £1750

Lot 14

Lot 21

Lot 35

Lot 23

Lot 26

Lot 37

The catalogue will be available from late-June and the sale will close on 1st September 2019.

Catalogues cost £3 (or £5 from overseas), payment either by cheque to J M A Gregson or overseas buyers may send mint UK postage stamps or pay by bank transfer. An email version of this catalogue is free.

J M A GREGSON
18 WILLOUGHBY CLOSE
ALVESTON
BRISTOL BS35 3RW
Tel: 01454-411652
Email: jos@josgregson.plus.com

Lot 136

Lot 445

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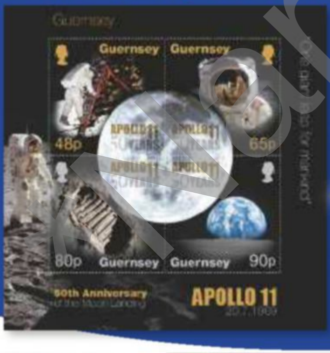

Guernsey
APOLLO 11
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65p
80p
90p
50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing

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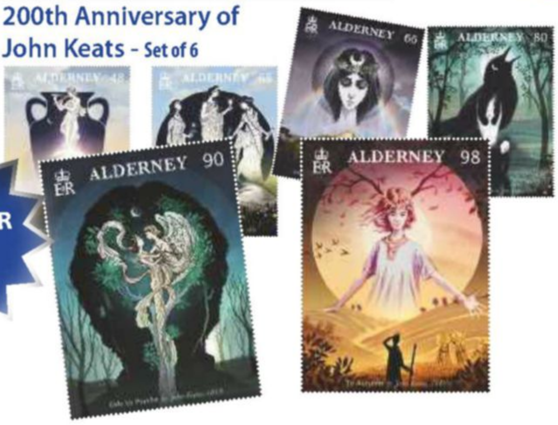

ALDERNEY 48
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AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

Edited by Adrian Keppel. Prices quoted exclude buyer's premiums

UNITED STATES 1893
Columbian Exposition multiple

SOLD FOR £245,810

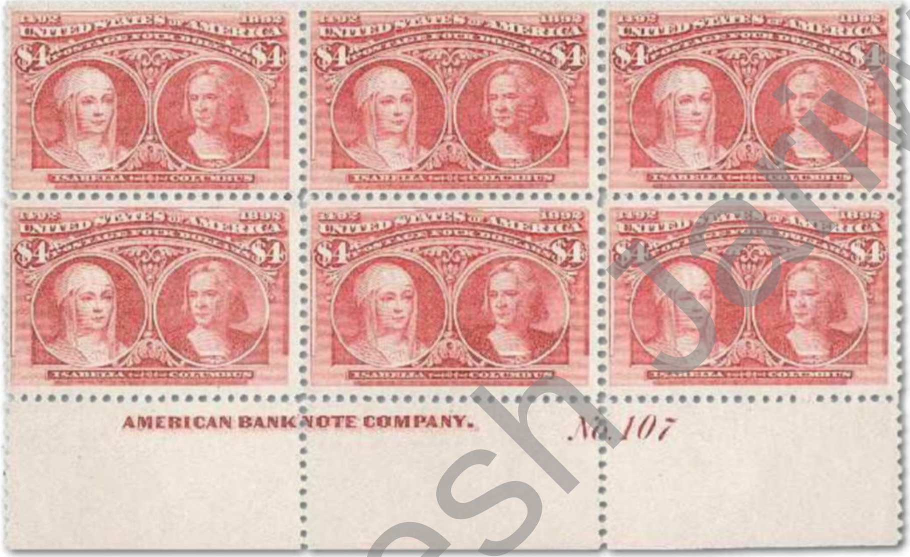
The William H Gross collection of United States multiples, sold by Robert A Siegel, offered many spectacular lots, such as plate blocks and imprint blocks of all the classic issues.

Among the many highlights was a block of six of the $4 red from the 1893 Columbian Exposition issue, with both the printer's imprint and the plate number in the lower margin. Only three such blocks have been recorded, and this is the finest.

Portraying Christopher Columbus with his patron Queen Isabella of Castile, the $4 was the second highest value in a pictorial set of 16, tracing the story of Columbus's relationship with the Spanish monarchs and his voyages of discovery to the Americas.

The first commemorative issue of the USA, it was released to coincide with the Columbian Exposition world's fair which was held in Chicago, Illinois, from May to October 1893.

SOLD BY ROBERT A SIEGEL £245,810



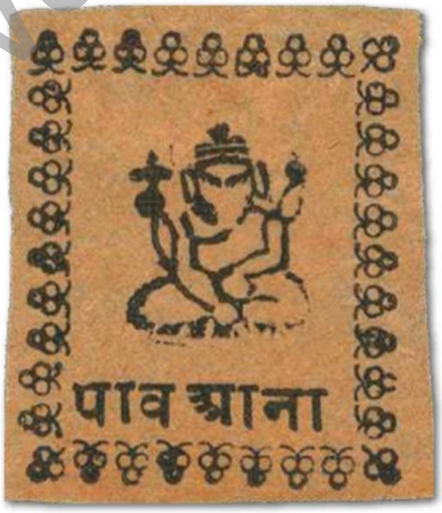
DUTTIA 1896
Mint ¼a

The Gaur collection of India, offered by Stanley Gibbons, included a rarity from the feudatory state of Duttia: the 1896 ¼a black on orange without a control handstamp.

Imperforate and without gum, the early issues of Duttia, featured a primitive illustration of Ganesh, the Hindu god with the elephant head. They had to be handstamped with a circular blue control mark, also depicting Ganesh, before they could be used for postage.

Only about 12 examples of the 1896 ¼a exist with no control mark.

SOLD BY STANLEY GIBBONS £18,000



INDO-CHINA 1898
Cross-border cover

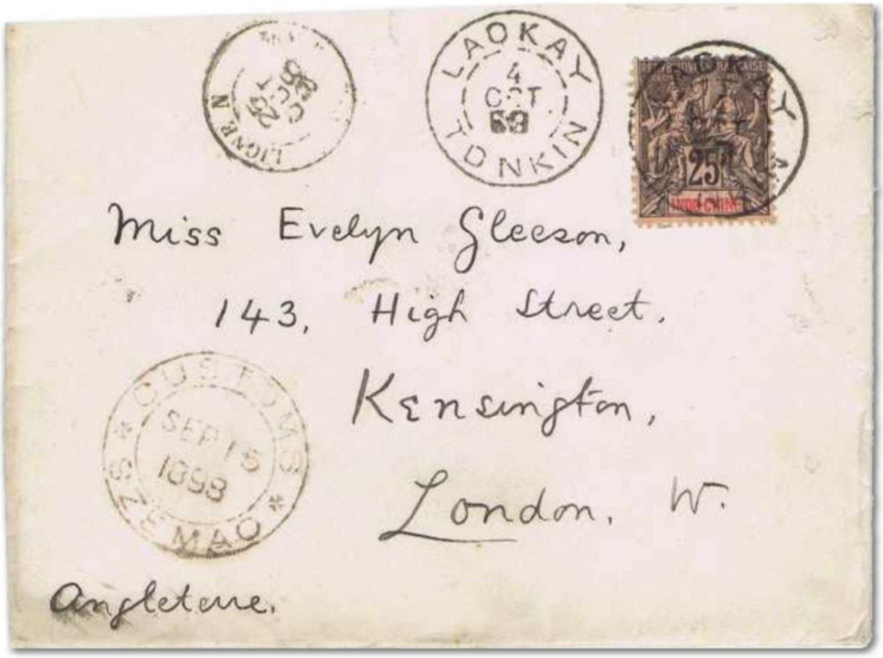
It was estimated at a modest £85 in the MacDonnell Whyte catalogue (although that was later blamed on a printing error omitting two zeros), but competitive telephone bidding ensured a spectacular realisation for this 1898 Indo-China cover, which was originally sent from China via a rare cross-border route.

Addressed to London, it received customs postmarks from both Szemao (Simao) and Mengtzao (Mengzi), in southern China, before crossing the border into French Indo-China and entering the international postal system.

At the French post office at Laokay (Lào-Cai), it was franked with an Indo-China 25c black-on-pink, from the 1892 'Tablet' key-type series, before being conveyed to Europe by the French maritime service.

Lào-Cai is in modern-day Vietnam.

SOLD BY MACDONNELL WHYTE £16,797



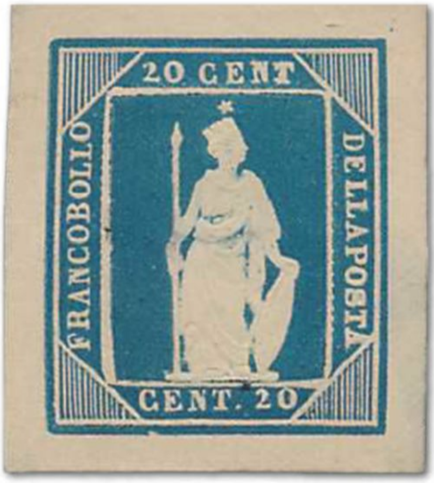
ITALY 1862-65
Essays and proofs

Whilst the archive of Italian stamp designer Corrado Mezzana received most attention in the weeks leading up to Warwick & Warwick's sale, it was collection of essays and proofs from the earliest Italian stamp issues which ultimately stole the show.

These were sold as a single lot, including unissued designs, showing the evolution of Italy's first two sets.

Specialist collectors competed vigorously for this, and it eventually sold for nearly four times its pre-sale estimate.

SOLD BY WARWICK & WARWICK £7,500



AUSTRALIA 1914
Expedition postmark variety

At Grosvenor's sale of the Helen Davis gold medal-winning collection on the theme of penguins, great interest and some impressive prices were attracted by postal history from early expeditions to Antarctica.

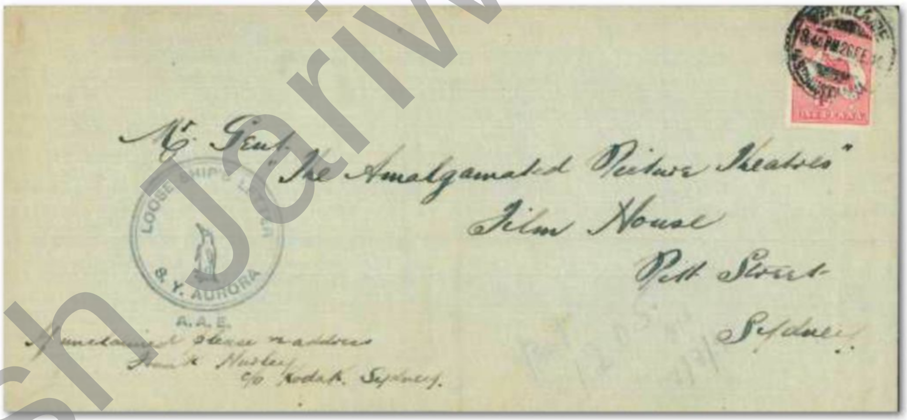
Among these was a cover sent by Frank Hurley, the official photographer for the Australasian Antarctic Expedition of 1911-14 led by Douglas Mawson, which boasts a rare postmark variety.

Written in February 1914 from the expedition ship SY *Aurora*, just nine days before its return to Adelaide at the end of the venture, it is one of only two known with the 'Loose Ship's Letter/SY Aurora/AAE' pictorial postmark, with the 'Posted in Antarctica' element of the inscription missing from above the penguin motif.

Hurley is known for his early motion-picture film which captured the hardships of the expedition, and the letter was addressed to the Amalgamated Picture Theatres in Sydney.

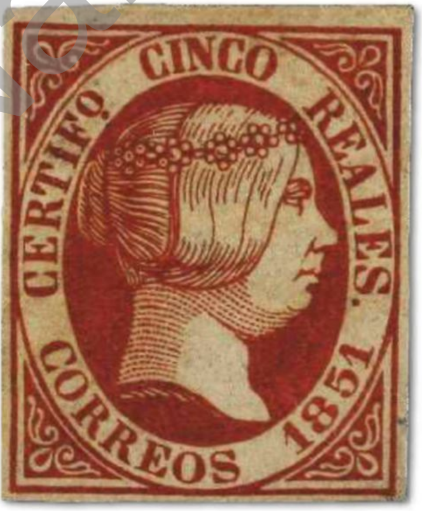
The AAE was celebrated for charting much of the coast of Antarctica, and for its scientific achievements in the fields of biology, geology and glaciology.

SOLD BY GROSVENOR £9,000



SPAIN 1851
Error of colour?

Spain's second stamp issue, of 1851, is known for a major error: the 2r value printed in blue rather than red. But Soler y LLach's sale of the Abeniacar collection included an example of what is claimed, contentiously, to be another colour error.



Some catalogues describe the 5r in chocolate-brown, rather than rose, as part of a very small consignment of sheets deliberately printed in this colour; others, including the auction catalogue, describe it as an error which went unnoticed.

Either way, this is certainly a rare stamp, with fewer than 10 copies known to survive.

SOLD BY SOLER Y LLACH £9,191

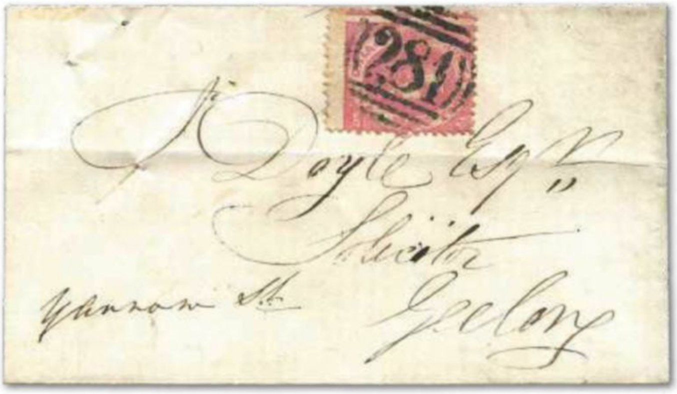
VICTORIA 1860
Rare cancellation

The barred numeral cancellations of the Australian state of Victoria are a popular collecting field, and the latest Phoenix sale included a genuine rarity.

The 4d stamp on an 1860 cover to Geelong was tied by a very clear strike of the '281' cancellation used at Mount Pollock post office.

This was one of the smaller offices, and it was open for less than four years. Only one other example of this particular cancel is known, and it's off-cover.

SOLD BY PHOENIX £1,851



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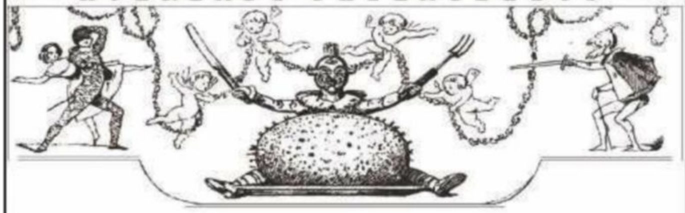

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The latest issues from Jersey Post

Man on the Moon 50th Anniversary a 1969 Jersey Perspective

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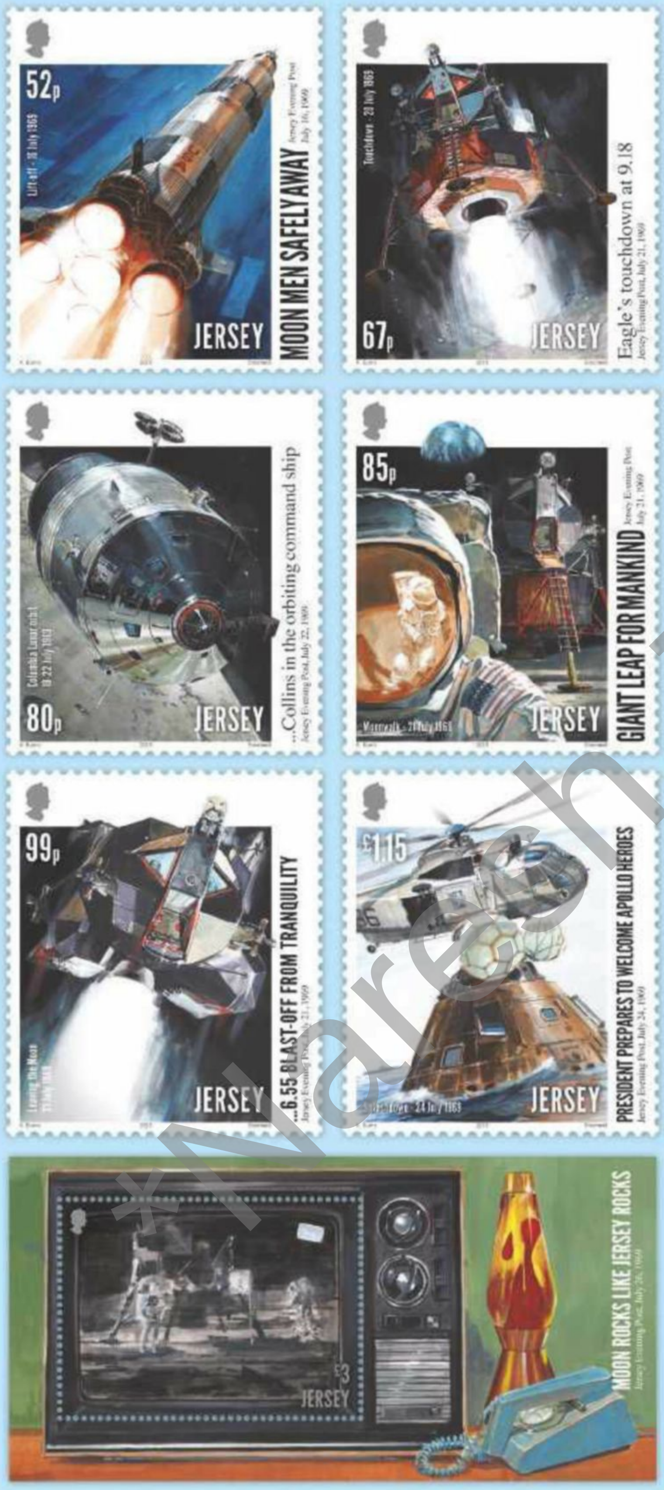
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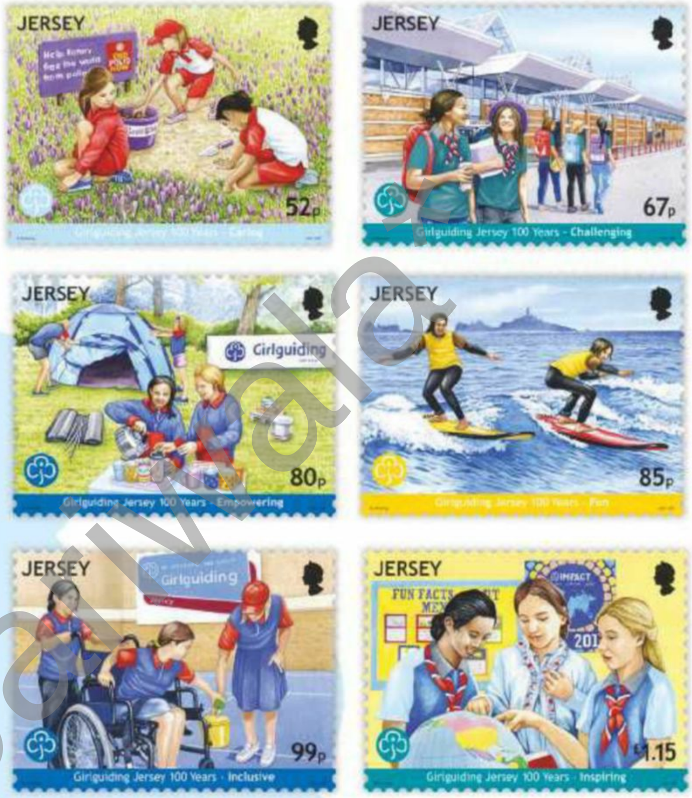
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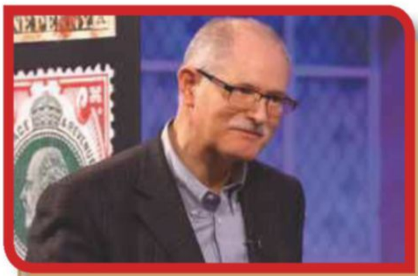

ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV

About The Author Andrew found his Father's stamps at the age of 10. A year later at Senior School he immediately joined the School Stamp Club. He 'specialised'(!) in British, but soon was interested in Queen Victoria which he could not afford. The 2nd to last boy wearing short trousers in his school year, he religiously bought Post Office New Issues on Tuesdays with his pocket money. He soon found that he enjoyed swapping / trading stamps as much as collecting them. Aged 19, eschewing University he quickly found a philatelic career in London, leading to creating his own companies in stamps. Andrew has authored many internationally published Stamp 'Tips' articles, appearing on Local Radio and National TV promoting Philately with Alan Titchmarsh. Andrew's area of expertise is unusual – in so far as his grounding in collecting and wide philatelic knowledge has given him a deep understanding of Philately. He has studied Philately for the past 45 years, in combination with Commerce and Marketing Expertise, enabling him to create synergies in 'lifetime' interlinked Stamp Selling Systems, selling unit-priced stamps through to handling collections & Rarities up to £700,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his Wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (aka UPA) – the Largest No Buyer's Premium Reducing-Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps to 2,261 different bidders from 54 different countries in his latest auction. Andrew stopped collecting stamps aged 18 reasoning that his enjoyment of stamps would be in handling them and selling them…

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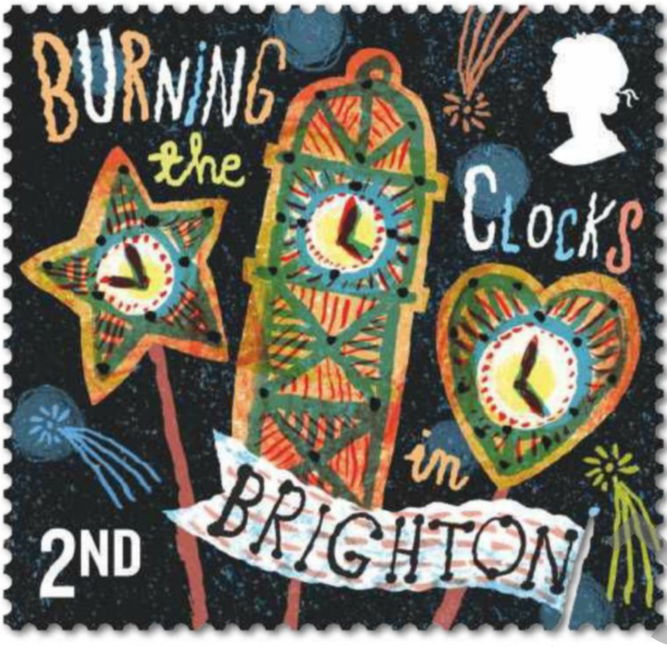
Naresh Jarwal

NEW ISSUE

The strangest events in the British calendar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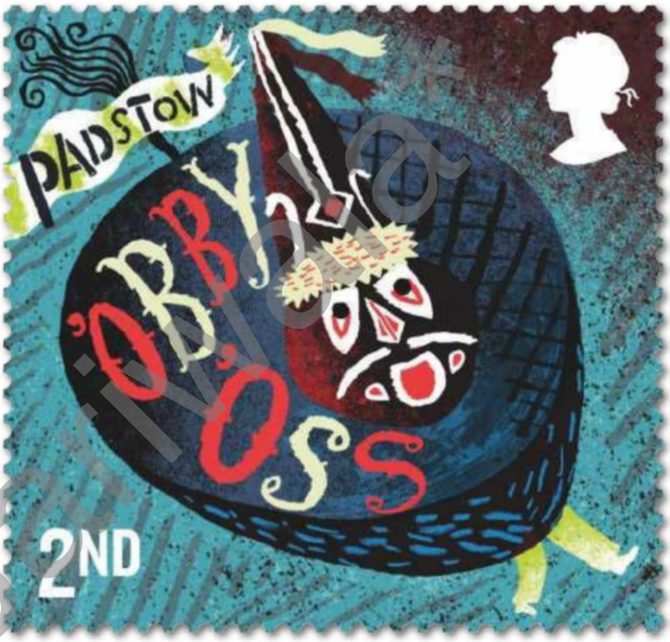
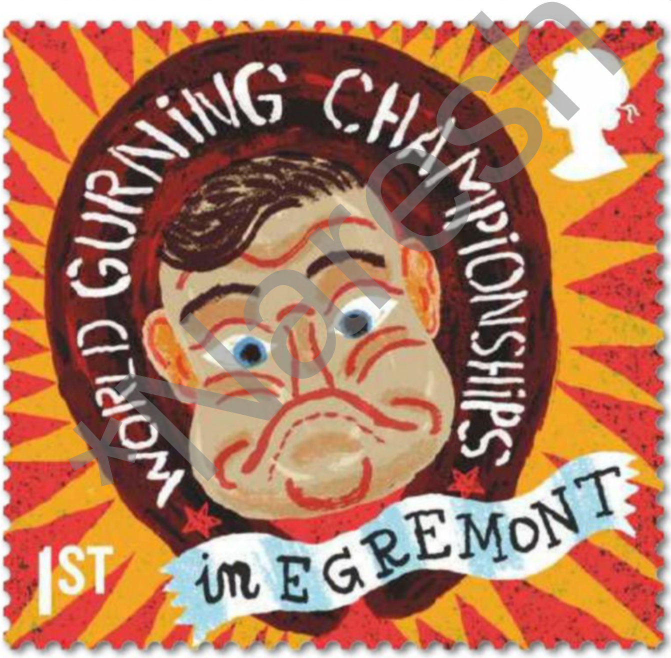
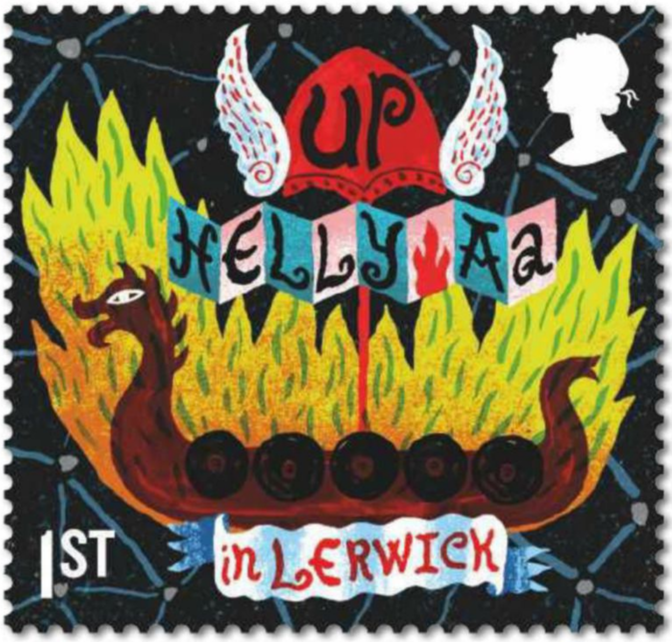



WORLD GURNING CHAMPIONSHIPS in EGREMONT
1ST


UP HELLY AA in LERWICK
1ST

A set of eight stamps entitled Curious Customs, issued on July 9, celebrates a selection of Britain's weird and wonderful annual festivals, sporting contests and community events.

Its poster-style designs attempt to capture the eccentric spirit of these calendar fixtures, some of which are well-known and some less so.

Many are medieval traditions which were revived during the Victorian period, as communities began to take renewed pride in their folk heritage. Others are modern creations, devised in the 20th century.

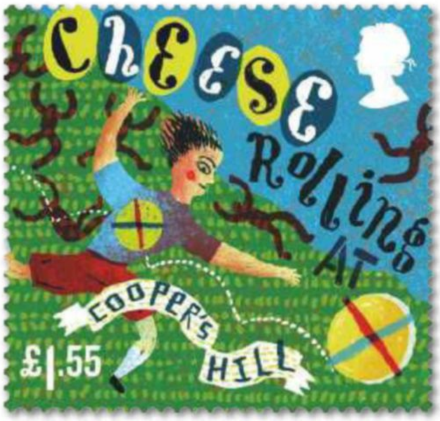
Designed by NB Studio, from illustrations by Jonny Hannah, the stamps were printed in litho by International Security Printers.

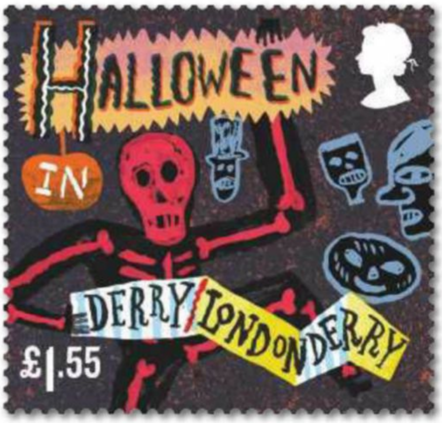
2nd class BURNING THE CLOCKS IN BRIGHTON

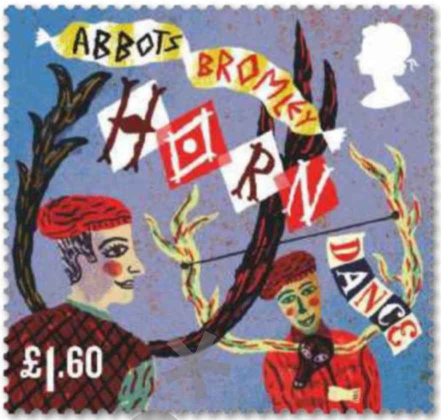
Created in 1994 by a community arts charity, Burning The Clocks is a celebration of passing time which takes place on December 21, the shortest day of the year. Brighton residents parade with paper and willow lanterns decorated as clocks, before making them into a bonfire on the seafront.

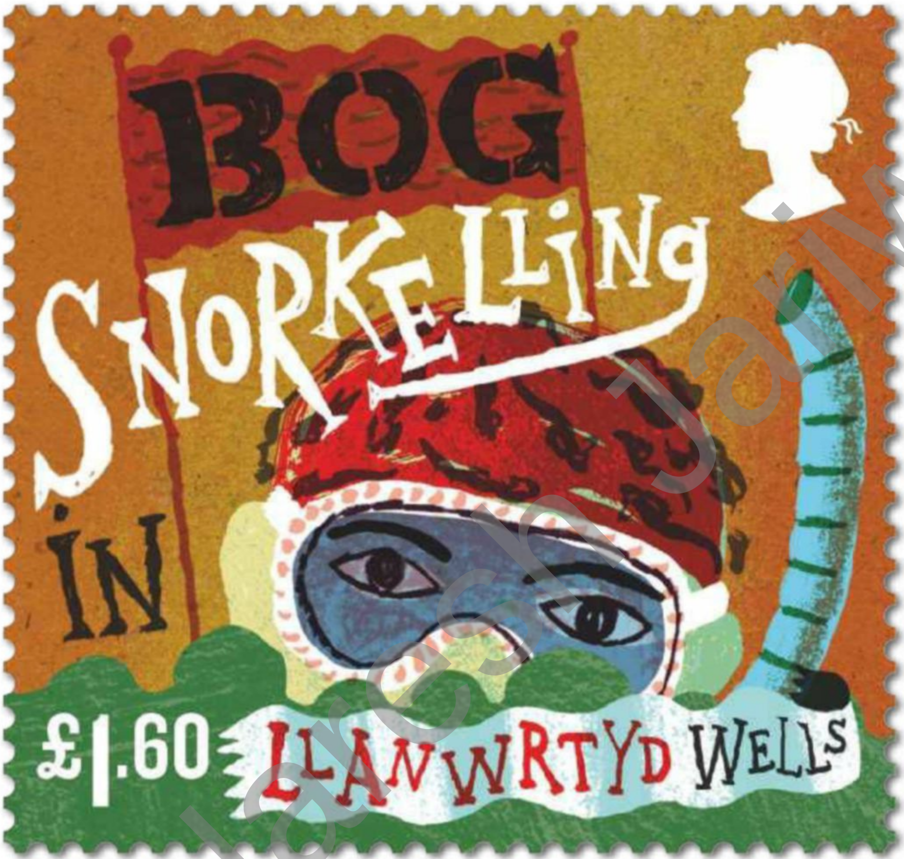
2nd class 'OBBY 'OSS IN PADSTOW

Dressing up in equine costumes to celebrate May Day is a medieval tradition, and Padstow's hobby horse festival is documented since 1803. Two large black


CHEESE Rolling AT COOPER'S HILL
£1.55






BOG SNORKELLING IN LLANWRTYD WELLS
£1.60

beasts swirl and sway through the streets, accompanied by musicians and dancers.

1st class WORLD GURNING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN EGREMONT
A traditional fairground game, gurning essentially involves contestants pulling funny or ugly faces, while framed by a large horse collar. The world championship is hosted by Egremont Crab Fair in Cumbria, founded in 1267, and takes place on the third Saturday in September.

PRICES

Set of 8 stamps	£8.92
Presentation pack	£9.75
Stamp cards	£3.60
First day cover	£11.30

1st class UP HELLY AA IN LERWICK
On the last Tuesday in January, the people of the Shetland Islands celebrate their Viking heritage with an event which has medieval influences but was introduced in Victorian times. A torchlit procession culminates in the burning of a full-size replica of a Viking longship.

£1.55 CHEESE ROLLING AT COOPER'S HILL
Chasing a large cheese down a steep hill, once a popular game at fairs, is perpetuated at Cooper's Hill near Brockworth in Gloucestershire on the last Monday in May. Contestants have little hope of catching the cheese, but the first to the bottom wins.

£1.55 HALLOWEEN IN DERRY/ LONDONDERRY
Celebrating Halloween (All Hallows' Evening) on October 31 may have Celtic pagan roots, but became a Christian festival dedicated to the dead. It has enjoyed a modern resurgence as a time for dressing up and playing pranks, and in Derry it has been developed into a five-day carnival with music, dancing and parades.

£1.60 HORN DANCE IN ABBOTS BROMLEY
A tradition surviving from medieval times, the Horn Dance involves dancers wearing reindeer antlers, and others representing Maid Marian, a bowman, a hobby horse and a fool, performing around the parish of Abbots Bromley in Staffordshire. It takes place on Wakes Monday: the first Monday after the first Sunday after September 4.

£1.60 BOG SNORKELLING IN LLANWRTYD WELLS
Bog snorkelling involves navigating your way across a water-filled trench in a peat bog wearing a snorkel and flippers, but without using conventional swimming strokes. Inaugurated in Llanwrtyd Wells in 1976 and proclaimed a world championship in 1986, it is held on the Sunday of the August bank holiday weekend.

OTHER PRODUCTS
The presentation pack, written by folklorist Steve Roud, features a wood-cut map of the UK illustrating each of the featured customs, and a specially commissioned poem about them by Matt Harvey.

VERDICT

COMMEMORATIVE WORTH ★★★☆☆
You might not have heard of some of these customs, yet they epitomise British eccentricity

QUALITY OF DESIGN ★★★☆☆
Many collectors will deride the designs, but they are suitably playful, and more interesting than photographs

WOW FACTOR ★★☆☆☆
These stamps will get noticed, if they are ever used on everyday mail

Postal honours for historic aviators Alcock and Brown

Royal Mail marked the 100th anniversary of the first non-stop transatlantic flight with a slogan postmark, a decorated postbox and an online gallery of photographs.

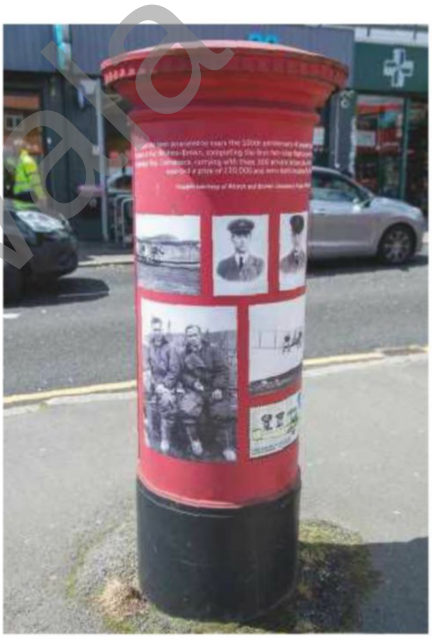
The slogan postmark, inscribed 'Centenary of the first transatlantic flight 14 June 1919' was in use across the country on June 14-15, as usual with no prior notice given to collectors.

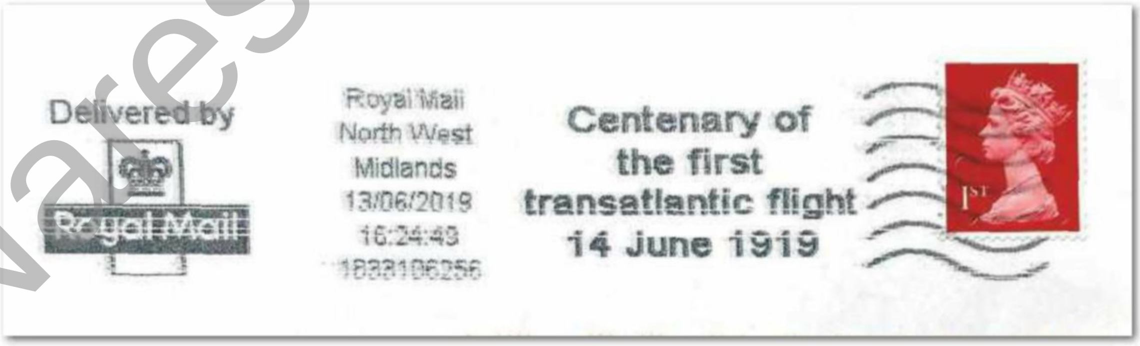
The postbox in Harlington, near London's Heathrow Airport, was adorned with photographs of the aviators, Captain John Alcock and Lieutenant Arthur Whitten Brown, their Vickers Vimy biplane and the historic flight. There was also an image of the 5d stamp which was issued to mark the 50th anniversary in 1969, part of an Anniversaries set of five.

These photographs and more are part of the online gallery, which can be seen at www.royalmailgroup.com

The flight, which commenced at St John's in Newfoundland on June 14, 1919, and ended with a crash-landing near Clifden in Ireland the following day, was carrying 196 letters, franked with a Newfoundland stamp specially overprinted for the attempt. It was therefore the first successful transatlantic airmail flight.

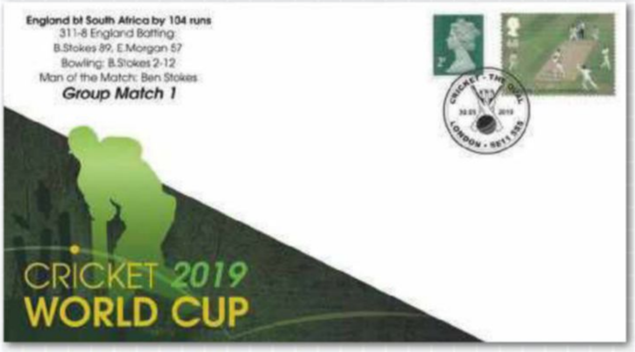
Today, Heathrow Airport is the location of Royal Mail's Worldwide Distribution Centre.





© COURTESY OF NORVIC PHILATELICS

COVER OF THE MONTH



Buckingham has produced a cover commemorating each of England's matches in the Cricket World Cup.

Each records the result of the match and details of the host nation's best batting and bowling figures. Although they have matching designs, they have different stamps and pictorial postmarks.

A full set will be available on July 14, the date of the final, priced £100. Visit www.buckinghamcovers.com

NEWS IN BRIEF

> A postbox in St James's Square, London, was decorated to mark the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings, close to where the invasion of Normandy was planned at Norfolk House. Besides the commemorative stamp issue (July issue, page 20), there was also a slogan postmark in use from June 5-9.

> Stanley Gibbons has published the 2019 edition of its Great Britain Concise catalogue, which has reverted to softback format and is priced £32.95.

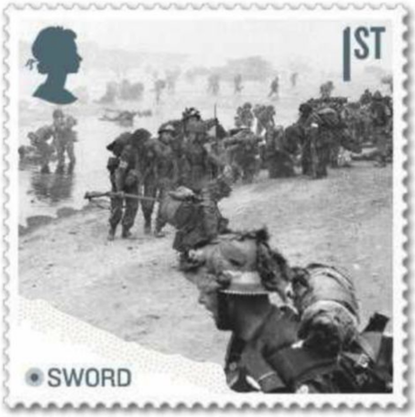
> Royal Mail board members are not receiving bonuses this year, after 12 months during which executive pay was attacked by shareholders and the share price fell by 50%.

> A scheme has been proposed to adapt Mail Rail, the disused Post Office underground rail network in London, to transport passengers' luggage between the capital's airports. The idea was unveiled by architects Weston Williamson & Partners.

> A father and son went on trial in London in June accused of forging more than three million 1st class stamps.

> A postcard datestamped in Wadebridge in December 1907 and franked with a King Edward VII ½d green was delivered to an address in Plymouth in May, some 112 years late. Royal Mail believes it was recently reposted, rather than lost in the postal system all that time.

Royal Mail obliged to defend digital editing of stamp images



Several national newspapers took up the cause of the daughter of a war veteran who complained that he had been airbrushed out of a Royal Mail stamp commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day in June.

The miniature sheet 1st class stamp featuring a scene from Sword beach was based on a photograph which has been published many times before. Jessamine Goudie has a copy of it, as it includes a recognisable image of her father James Leisk, a sapper serving with the Royal Engineers.

Unfortunately he was in the foregound towards the bottom left, which was the area reserved for a design feature naming the beach and showing part of the Normandy coastline, so he was omitted when the image was digitally edited.

Royal Mail was obliged to defend its design approach. 'Due to the limited space available on a stamp, it is sometimes necessary to crop an original image,' a spokesman said.

'We appreciate that this is a disappointment to the family of the soldier, but wish to assure them that no offence was intended.'

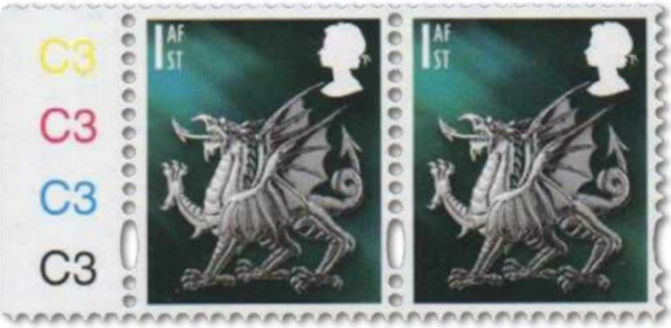
Country definitive reprint has wrong font

A 2019 reprint of the Wales 1st class country definitive has reverted to the font used until 2017, instead of retaining the new font which was introduced last year.

The stamp was printed in litho by Cartor, just like the 2018 version, so the obvious conclusion is that the error results from administrative and quality control failures.

The printing date in the sheet margin is January 30. It is unknown whether other country stamps were reprinted at the same time.

The fonts of all the stamps in the country range were changed to match those of the Machin definitives. The airmail values converted in 2017, when new denominations were required, and the non-value-indicators in 2018, when they were next reprinted.



HOT OFF THE PRESS

Don Staddon has the inside line on British stamp printings, post office supplies and developments in postal mechanisation

DEFINITIVE PRINTINGS

A number of Machin definitive printings have been appearing with '19' year codes in their security overlay, from production dates starting in February.

One such reprint is of the £1.55 value, which previously met the Europe up-to-100g rate, but now meets the worldwide up-to-20g tariff. The sheet margin shows a printing date of February 14.

The stamps were printed by ISP, and they show W1 cylinder numbers.

Retail booklets of definitive stamps have appeared with packaging dates in January, but the stamps inside have an '18' year code.

POST & GO PRINTINGS

With the review of Post & Go services still unresolved and no new pictorial issues appearing this year, The Postal Museum and other sites with Royal Mail kiosks have been unable to replenish their stocks, including of stamps which were digitally printed.

Machin-head designs with the year code '18' are available from a few machines, but nothing more has been updated. Existing stocks are being used up, with a few oldies now appearing among them.

This situation will need to be resolved soon.

PHILATELIC COUNTERS IN LONDON

Following the closure of the post office near Trafalgar Square in central London, it was welcome news that a philatelic service is available instead at the Broadway office, near St James's Park underground station.

I now understand that a similar service can also be found in the post office at 95 Aldwych, which may be just as convenient for collectors working in the capital.

MODERN BRITISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE

The collector set to be named Honorary Chairman of the Modern British Philatelic Circle at its annual general meeting is none other than Brian Hewlett, the actor who plays the character of Neil Carter in the BBC radio soap opera *The Archers*.

Like many, Brian started collecting when he was young, and returned to the hobby later in life. Most of his collecting interests focus on Great Britain, with some exceptions.

The MBPC was established in 2006, as a result of the merger of the Great Britain Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle and the British Decimal Stamps Study Circle.

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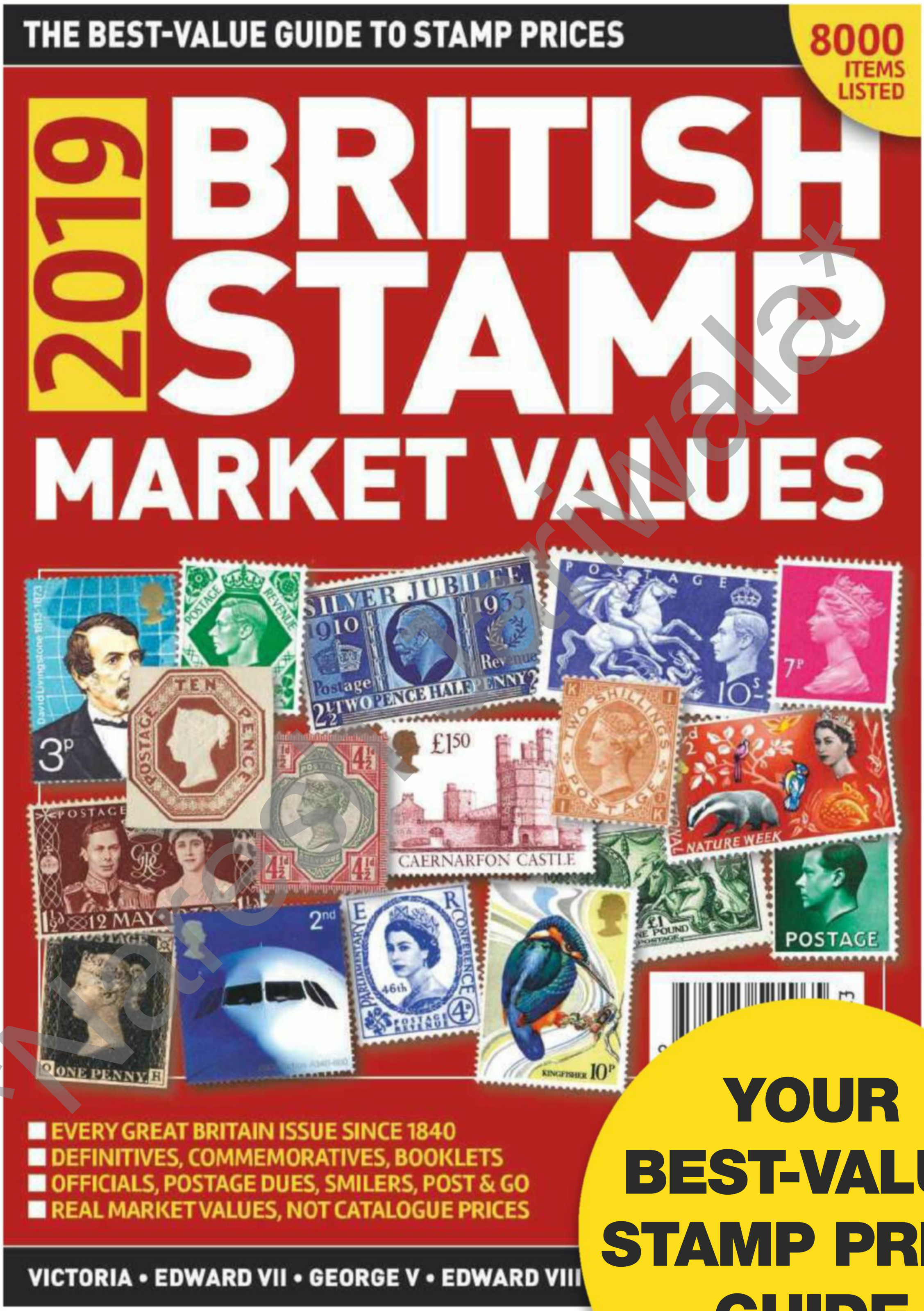

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Letters

GET IN TOUCH

These pages are devoted to giving you the opportunity to have your say. Whether you want to praise or complain, suggest or advise, add information or correct it, or just get something off your chest, we'd love to hear from you.

Send your letters to:
Stamp Magazine, MyTimeMedia Ltd,
Suite 25, Eden House, Enterprise
Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF
Or send an e-mail to:
guy.thomas@mytimemedia.com

The Editor reads all letters, but is unable to answer them all personally. We reserve the right to edit letters for publication.

The post office clerk who didn't know what a postmark was for

How about this as an extraordinary example of intransigence and ignorance, from a crown post office?

When I post club packets, I use whatever special stamps are available at the time. For some years, I have been politely asking the counter staff to cancel the stamps neatly, as the packet is going to a collector. They have usually been happy to comply.

A few days ago I went to the same post office and made the same request, to a staff member who was obviously new. She struck a neat postmark on the packet, but clear of the stamps.

When I asked her to cancel the stamps, she refused. If the stamps were postmarked, she said, some unspecified person further along the delivery chain wouldn't be able to recognise them!

I was unable to convince her that stamps are supposed to be postmarked, and I suspect the addressee received the packet with the all-too-common biro or marker pen scribble through the stamps.

P J Hudson, Goudhurst

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Why commemorate Marvel superheroes but ignore the Cricket World Cup?

As a collector of cricket stamps and postcards, I was most disappointed to see no British stamps commemorating the Cricket World Cup, currently being contested in the UK.

This is a tournament held once every four years, in different parts of the world, so it may not return to this country again until the middle of the century.

I wrote to Royal Mail suggesting a set of 1st class stamps representing the 10 competing teams, and I thought this would be of interest not only to the British public but also to all the other Commonwealth countries. Alas, the reply was that there were no plans to mark this occasion.

Whatever possessed Royal Mail to think that Marvel comic superheroes are of more relevance to Britain than cricket?

Stan Beecham, via e-mail

Don't overlook the Falklands' portrait of Victoria

Your feature on the stamp portraits of Queen Victoria (June issue, page 38) left me puzzled.

You included many images but omitted the fine portrait engraved by Herbert Bourne for the Falkland Islands 1878 series, which was also used by Transvaal.

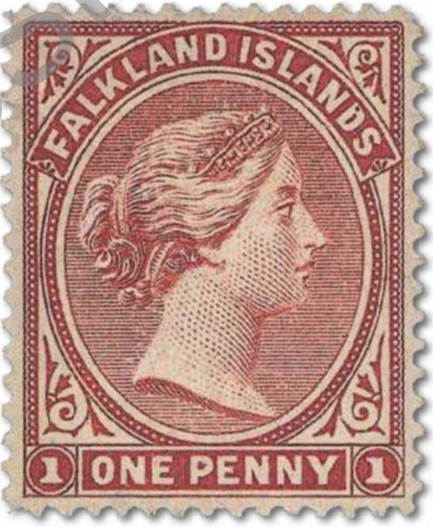
John Baverstock, via e-mail

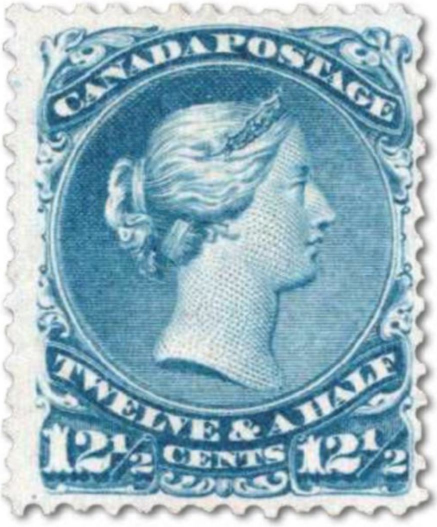
Our focus was mostly on images which could be traced back to specific portrait paintings or photographs, and this one was an exception.

Bourne's portrait for Bradbury Wilkinson was based on that of Alfred Jones for the American Banknote Company, used by Canada in 1868, which in turn may have been based on one by Charles Jeens for Perkins Bacon, used by South Australia in 1867.

'As a banknote printer, Bradbury Wilkinson in 1878 was new to producing stamp images,' says John Winchester, the author of our feature. 'It looked for inspiration elsewhere, and found it in the Large Queens of Canada.'

This is an interesting thread, although it is unclear which painted portrait, if any, was the original inspiration for all these stamps. -Ed





Time to revise the way we view commemoratives

There were two letters in the June issue of *Stamp Magazine* about the how increasingly difficult it is to buy commemorative sets from post offices.

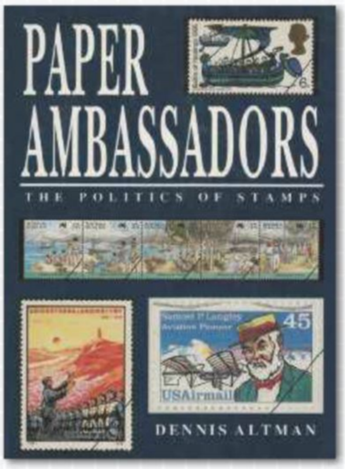
Perhaps the time has come for us to accept that Royal Mail doesn't sell commemorative stamps any more (other than at Christmas), and view the products available from the philatelic service as equivalent to the 'collectable' plates and mugs sold by some companies to tourists: interesting if you like that sort of thing, but of little use in the real world.

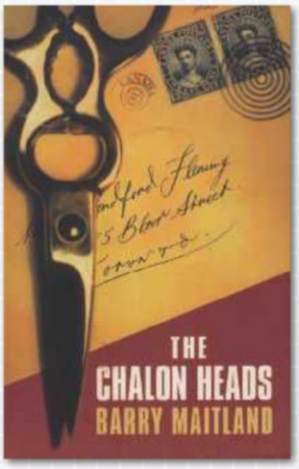
It is surely also time for Stanley Gibbons to relegate these issues to the appendix section of the catalogue.

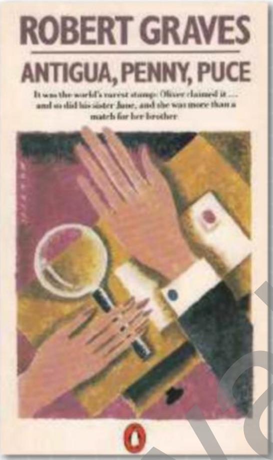
Terry Davies, Caersws

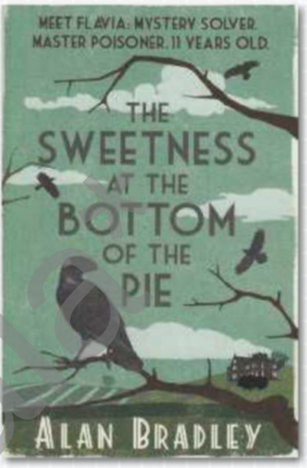
SOAPBOX

If your friends and family are still failing to understand the attraction of philately, it may be time to buy them a book, suggests Alastair Gunn








MEET FLAVIA: MYSTERY SOLVER. MASTER POISONER. 11 YEARS OLD.
THE SWEETNESS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PIE
ALAN BRADLEY

The world thinks philatelists are mad. I know it. You know it. We all know it.

It's evident when people talk about hobbies. Playing golf, watching football and gardening are widely assumed to be rational pastimes, but as soon as you mention stamp collecting people's eyes glaze over.

It's our own fault, as we don't try to engage others with our hobby. We attend clubs, visit exhibitions and frequent internet sites in private. We can't blame people for thinking our passion is bizarre if we don't offer them an entry point into it.

One way to change attitudes and open minds might be to introduce our friends and family to literature with a philatelic flavour — not stamp catalogues or handbooks, obviously, but books which non-collectors can enjoy reading.

There are plenty of enjoyable texts which involve philately and postal history, without assuming any prior knowledge of the subject.

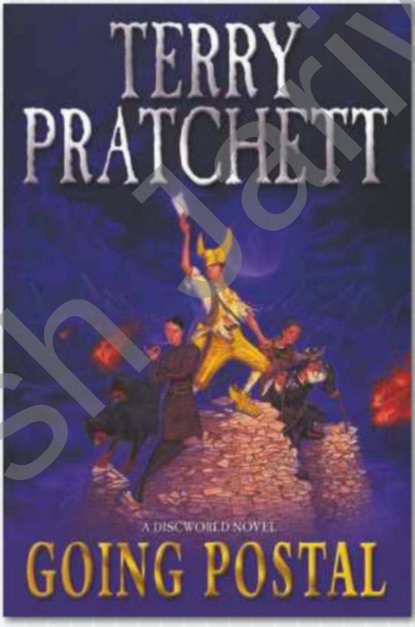
After due consideration of each potential reader's age, gender and other interests, which will suggest certain books as being more suitable than others, why not give them a different kind of present for their birthday or Christmas?

HISTORY AND POLITICS

There are several obvious possibilities for people who are interested in history, geography or politics.

Chris West's *First Class: A History of Britain in 36 Postage Stamps* provides a very readable account of modern British history, using philately as a prop.

Dennis Altman's *Paper Ambassadors: The Politics of Stamps* is a fascinating read, analysing the imagery on a nation's stamps as a way of understanding the country itself.



Both texts require a willingness to engage in historical and political analysis, which not all readers will enjoy but which some will love.

NOVELS FOR ADULTS

If a novel would be more suitable, and the recipient is an adult, two books stand out.

The Chalon Heads by Barry Maitland is a modern crime story with enough murder and blood to satisfy even hardened enthusiasts of the genre. It has strong narrative drive with good plot twists, and the philatelic intrigue, involving rarities and forgeries, can provide an entry point into our hobby for those who assumed it was dull.

Antigua, Penny, Puce by Robert Graves, written in 1936, is more old-fashioned but better written. It explores a range of issues including sibling rivalry and the morality of acting, but also unveils the fascination in philately.

As a bonus, there is even a plausible reason for the rarity of the stamp at the core of the narrative!

NOVELS FOR ADOLESCENTS

Two other novels are perhaps more suitable for adolescents, although perfectly readable for anyone.

The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie by Alan Bradley is an elegantly written story of a precocious 11-year-old heroine who becomes an amateur sleuth in a mystery with a Penny Black at its core. But not just any Penny Black...

Going Postal by Terry Pratchett (part of his famous Discworld series) is set in the post office of a fantasy world. It emphasises the importance of postal communications, and raises a variety of postal issues, from collecting to privatisation.

For a young person just getting into fantasy fiction this would be a perfect choice, as it's well-phrased and often funny.

DRAMATIC OPTION

Another view of the importance of postal services can be found in *Post Office*, a play by Rabindranath Tagore. Written in 1912, it explores the significance of the post in rural British India.

Although not a text for the average casual reader, it is superbly written; Tagore was the first non-European to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Alastair Gunn

YOUR VIEWS

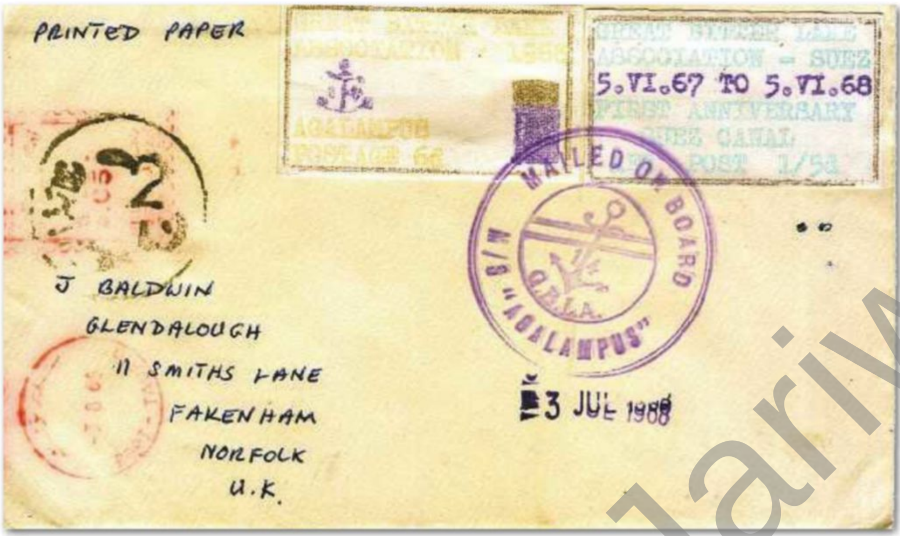
1968 cover serviced by ships trapped in Suez Canal

In your feature on the postal history of the Suez Canal (July issue, page 72), I was interested to read about the Great Bitter Lake Association postal service, operated by the ships which were trapped in the canal following the Six-Day War of 1967.

I read about it in a newspaper in 1968, so I sent off an addressed envelope and an international reply coupon to one of the ships, and by return they sent me a stamped cover.

As you can see, it has several different GBLA imperforate stamps and the cachet of 'Agalampus' (MS *Agapenor* and MS *Melampus*), datestamped July 3, 1968.

Jim Baldwin, via e-mail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GREAT BITTER LAKE ASSOCIATION - SUEZ
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POST 1/5d
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M/S "AGALAMPUS"
G.B.L.A.
3 JUL 1968
J BALDWIN
GLENDALOUGH
11 SMITHS LANE
FAKENHAM
NORFOLK
U.K.

Earlier renditions of General Burgoyne painting

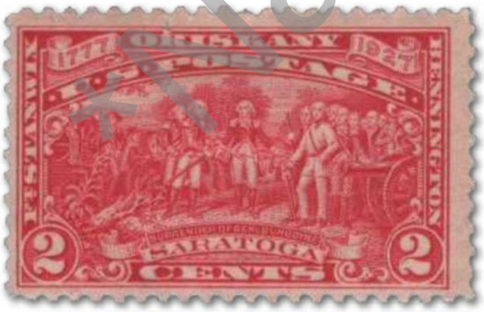
In response to Roy Pugh's letter singing the praises of the USA's 1994 $1 engraved stamp reproducing John Trumbull's painting *The Surrender of General Burgoyne at Saratoga* (June issue, page 30), it is worth noting for the record that the painting had appeared on two prior American stamps.

A different engraving adorned a 2c issue in 1927, on the 150th anniversary of the Saratoga campaign, and there was a 13c photogravure stamp in the Bicentennial series in 1977.

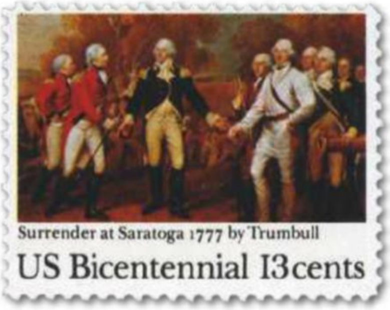
General John Burgoyne was not the hero, of course. He was a defeated British general in the American Revolutionary War, and is seen giving up his sword to General Horatio Gates of the Continental Army.

Our American cousins seem keen to recall this humiliating British surrender!

Joanna Nesbit, Slough


U.S. POSTAGE
SARATOGA
2 CENTS 2

ABOVE: USA 1927 150th Anniversary of the Burgoyne Campaign 2c


Surrender at Saratoga 1777 by Trumbull
US Bicentennial 13cents

ABOVE: USA 1977 Surrender of Burgoyne 13c

Nice Chalon heads, twice the Penny Blacks

It is always a red letter day when *Stamp Magazine* arrives at our house in New Zealand, and I was delighted to read your feature on the stamp portraits of Queen Victoria (June issue, page 38). I'm especially interested in the Chalon heads, of which New Zealand's has rightly been described as the best!

One error which needs correcting, however, is regarding the Penny Black, which was printed from plates of 240, not 120.

Gerald J Ellott, New Zealand

British Engineering set has worldwide resonance

Royal Mail's stamps on the theme of British Engineering (June issue, page 20) did a great job of showing the technological marvels of which Britain should be proud, some of which have an impact on people all around the world.

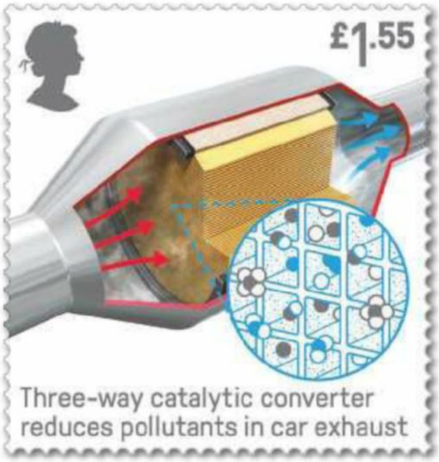
In most countries there is heavy vehicular traffic, for example, and it has been a huge relief that the pollution this causes has been cut down so much by catalytic converters.

Also, numerous people with medical issues have benefited from MRI scans helping to provide a diagnosis. I've had them a few times myself.

It is good that there is explanatory text on each stamp design, as this will surely help them get noticed by people, whether they are collectors or not.

Your verdict awarded the set four stars for commemorative worth. I believe it deserves at least four, if not five.

Mike Dornbrock, Cedar Falls, USA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HOT TOPICS

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POSTAL UNION CONGRESS LONDON 1929
POSTAGE
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• 17th November

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KEEP OUT OF POLITICS!

Many other countries like to commemorate their current or recent political leaders with postage stamps. Britain has traditionally been less enthusiastic. Why might that be?

The United States has just released a stamp commemorating George H W Bush, who served as President from 1989-93 and died last year.

How times change! Bush was not one of the country's most venerated leaders, but I guess Americans see the past through rosier-tinted glasses now they have Donald Trump in the White House, and his time is being rewritten as a golden age?

The USA is not unusual in honouring its former political leaders. Many other countries do, and some even put the current incumbent on their stamps. In Britain, not so much.

Winston Churchill is the only Prime Minister to have been celebrated with a dedicated set, twice: once after his death in 1965 and again in 1974 on what would have been his 100th birthday. He has also featured on single stamps on three further occasions.

This might seem excessive, and it's fair to say we are meant to be remembering him as the man who led the country to victory in World War II, rather than the one tarnished by the Gallipoli campaign in 1915 and the Bengal famine in 1943.

Other Prime Ministers who have made fleeting appearances on British stamps include Benjamin Disraeli, in 1987 and 2019 (both times in a supporting role to Queen Victoria), William Gladstone in 2009, Robert Walpole in 2011 and David Lloyd George in 2013.

There has been just one commemorative set devoted exclusively to our Prime Ministers, in 2014. The eight selected for inclusion were Churchill (again), Gladstone (again), William Pitt the Younger, Lord Grey, Robert Peel, Clement Attlee, Harold Wilson and Margaret Thatcher.

It doesn't take much to spot a theme here. Not only were all the politicians portrayed dead, but most ended their time in No10 sufficiently long ago for their sins to have been forgotten.

Even then, Thatcher's inclusion was probably too soon. Though one half of the country reveres her as the finest post-war leader we have had, the other half remembers her for the divisions she sowed in society.

I've frequently taken Royal Mail to task, not least for issuing pointless stamps in an attempt to generate revenue and for over-generous remuneration packages to top employees. Now, however, some congratulations are in order, because it's entirely appropriate that British stamps have largely steered clear of politics.

Indeed, the 2014 set should mark an end to the celebration of Prime Ministers. After all, you could argue that we've already scraped the barrel.

1st
Theresa May

ABOVE: One stamp in the 2014 Prime Ministers set might have looked like this, but it came just to soon for Theresa May. When it comes to politicians, is it always too soon?

> *'There has been just one British commemorative set devoted exclusively to our Prime Ministers. That should be the end of it'*

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

How long should a Prime Minister have to wait for any philatelic honour? 25 years? 50 years? 100 years? Ever? E-mail your comments to guy.thomas@mytimemedia.com

THE AUTHOR
John Crace is a GB collector specialising in early booklet panes, and a newspaper columnist

Let's face it, there's no way Neville Chamberlain or Anthony Eden are ever going to make the grade and feature on a stamp, because of Munich in 1938 and Suez in 1956 respectively. Nor are any of the recent crop.

Tony Blair's legacy is the war in Iraq in 2003, which was started on a false premise, caused the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people and further destabilised the Middle East. Try celebrating that record on a stamp.

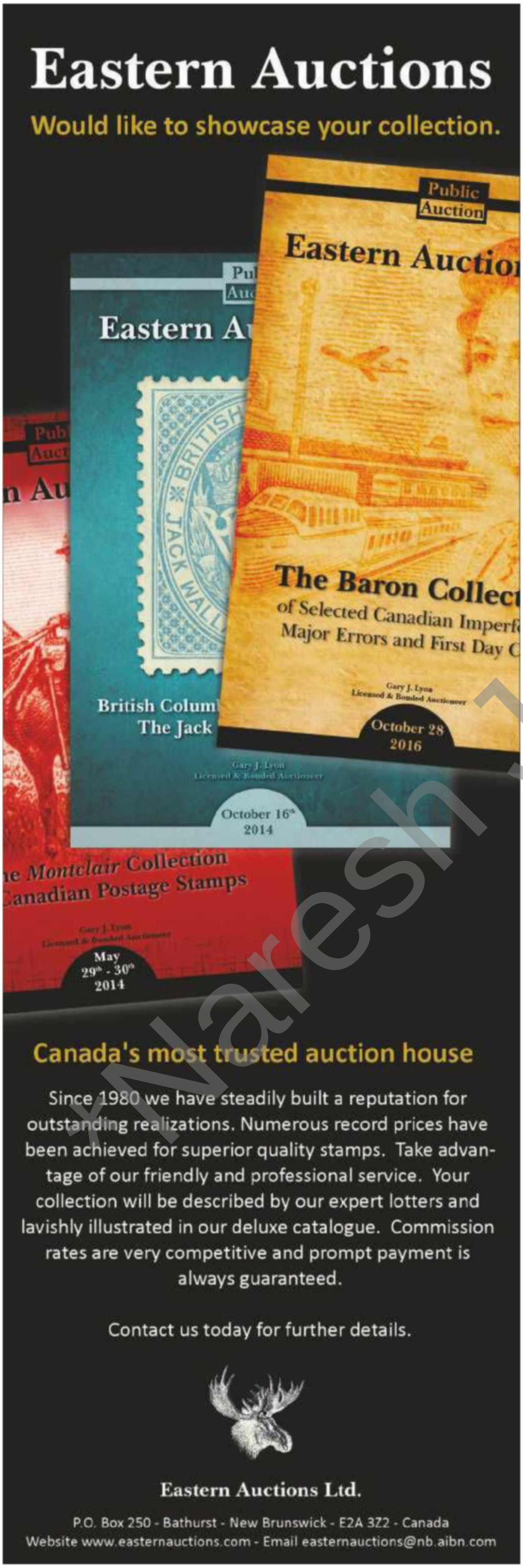
Gordon Brown's three years in office were dominated by the financial crisis, a period of recent history no-one will want to recall in a hurry.

David Cameron unnecessarily tipped the country into its biggest crisis since World War II by calling a referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union, in a failed attempt to patch up an internal divide in the Conservative party. Then he resigned to let someone else clear up the mess.

That person being Theresa May, about whom the least said the better. She had one job, to deliver Brexit, and she failed to do it. A stamp to mark Britain's decline into a global laughing stock over the past three years would be an act of cruelty.

May's successor is unlikely to do much better. Brexit has broken two prime ministers, and will probably break a third. So let's do all of their ilk a favour, and try to erase them from our collective memory.

There is a well-known saying that 'all political careers end in failure'. That being the case, there is really no need to celebrate them on stamps. ■



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GREAT BRITAIN ON PAPER MIXTURES

GB COMMEMS NO XMAS Wide ranging on paper mix includes h.v's & modern to 2018 issues. ½ lb £16.00, 1 lb £30.00.

GB HIGH VALUE DEFINS On paper, many from registered & recorded mail so good cancellations, a clean mix. Includes modern security issues which will become very rare with all the gold labels used on mail. ½ lb £18.00, 1 lb £35.00.

GB MULTIPLES ISSUES Try to keep up with the recent multiple issues. Increasing variety, right up to the latest 2018 Harry Potter, Owls, Game of Thrones, 2017 Droids & Aliens, Classic Toys, Landmark Buildings, Songbirds, 2016 Mr Men, Shakespeare Quotes, Star Wars, Comedy Greats, Bridges, 2014 Sustainable Fish, Buckingham Palace etc. Try and complete those difficult sets. ¼ lb £24.00, ½ lb £45.00.

GB MODERN COMMEMS NO XMAS ONLY While Stocks Last! This sells for a small fortune on auction sites as they are so hard to find these days, we can supply very small amounts. Mostly 2012/2018 issues only with the odd high value and multiple issues. Limited range as so modern but very sought after. 2 oz £13.00.

GB SPECIAL CHARITY MIX A well balanced on paper Charity mix covering Defins, Commems, H.Value Commems, H.Value Defins, Pre-decimal, Wildings & Pre QEII. Covers all periods. 1 lb £12.00, 2 lbs £22.00.

GB REGIONALS (On paper). A wealth of variety from all four regions, find those elusive band/perf varieties very cheaply. Over 7000 – 8000 stamps/ 2lbs. 1 lb £15.00, 2 lbs £28.00.

GREAT BRITAIN OFF PAPER MIXTURES

GREAT BRITAIN Off paper mixture. The tedious washing of this modern mix has been done for you already by charity supporters! There are over 500 basic machins to collect. One of each in good nick can cost over £1,000.00. We can't guarantee all in there but you'll have great fun sorting, includes commems, h.v commems & defins, worth the price on their own. Guaranteed totally unpicked. At least 10,000 stamps / 1 lb. 1 lb £19.00, 2 lbs £37.00.

GREAT BRITAIN OFF PAPER COMMEMS NO XMAS Previously included Xmas, we can now supply without so the rarer Commems only. Wealth of variety from KGVI to date, includes some high values. Approx 5000 stamps to 1 lb weight. ¼ lb £22.00, ½ lb £42.00, 1 lb £80.00.

FOREIGN & COMMONWEALTH ON PAPER MIXTURES.

SPECIAL OFFER NO.1: Buy 1 lb Aus, Canada, N.Z& U.S.A for the discounted price of £62.00. List Price £74.00.

AUSTRALIA On paper charity mix, includes modern with dream variety, many Commems and high values, collected from a school-teacher in the Outback. Approx. 2500 stamps / 1 lb. 1 lb £18.00, 2 lbs £34.00.

CANADA Sold out before, we have been fortunate to get fresh stocks from the increasingly difficult country. A colourful on paper charity mixture from the Canadian Save the Children Fund of Commems, Defins, Large Pictorials and high values. 1 lb £20.00, 2 lbs. £39.00.

NEW ZEALAND On Paper charity mixture with Commems and higher values includes difficult to find modern. Supplied to us exclusively by a N.Z Charity. Approx. 2500 stamps / 1lb. ½ lb £11.00, 1 lb £20.00.

U.S.A. An on paper charity mixture with stupendous variety. There can't be many mixtures so attractive and with such good count. Approx count 3500 to 4000 stamps. Per 1lb £16.00, 2lbs £30.00.

EUREKA! We've found it. This has to be our best world mixture yet. At least 85% commems with a staggering variety with around 100 countries/states (yes we have found stamps from that many). Much modern and many high values included. Our SUPER WORLD 100. ½ lb £28.00, 1 lb £55.00, 2 lbs £105.00.

OVERSEAS FOREIGN & COMMONWEALTH CHARITY MIXTURE With over 120 Charity sources in this country it is not surprising that this is the ultimate mixture of Foreign & Commonwealth stamps essentially on paper. Enormous variety and mostly modern as it is collected from offices on a day to day basis. Many h. values as many are Air mail values and a lot will never be seen in approval books! 1 lb £30.00, 2 lbs £55.00, 5 lbs £125.00.

EUROPEAN COMMEMORATIVES New in the spring again it has been remarkably successful. Mostly Commemoratives from all corners of Europe (No GB). Great variety with high values and semi-postals. Includes very interesting stamps from the new Russian States, Iceland, Faroes, Greenland, Vatican, Monaco, San Marino, United Nations and Liechtenstein. A must for all collectors of Europe. ½ lb £28.00, 1 lb £55.00.

COMMEMORATIVES & LARGE ONLY ON PAPER MIXTURES Special offer. Buy 2 different lots of the Commems & Large mixtures below deduct 5% from the price, 4 items deduct 10%, 8 items deduct 20%! AUSTRALIA ½ lb £19, 1 lb £35.00. AUSTRIA ¼ lb £35, ½ lb £68.00. BELGIUM. ¼ lb £23, ½ lb £45.00. BHUTAN ¼ lb £35, ½ lb £68.00. BOTSWANA ¼ lb £18, ½ lb £35.00. CANADA ¼ lb £40, ½ lb £70.00. CYPRUS ¼ lb £30, ½ lb £58.00. FAROES 2oz £39, ¼ lb £74.00. FINLAND ¼ lb £20, ½ lb £39.00.FRANCE ¼ lb £23.00, ½ lb £42.00. FRENCH AFRICA ¼ lb £47, ½ lb £90.00. GERMANY ½ lb £16, 1 lb £30.00. GERMANY H.V COMMEMS ¼ lb £22, ½ lb £40. GIBRALTAR ¼ lb £30, ½ lb £58. GREECE ¼ lb £31, ½ lb £60. GUERNSEY ¼ lb £33, ½ lb £65.00. IRAN ¼ lb £30.00, ½ lb £58.00. ISLE OF MAN ½ lb £33, 1 lb £59.00. JERSEY ¼ lb £33, ½ lb £65.00. JAPAN ¼ lb £22, ½ lb £40.00. LUXEMBOURG ¼ lb £39, ½ lb £77.00. MALTA ½ lb £16, 1 lb £30.00.NEPAL ¼ lb £20, ½ lb £38.00. NORWAY ¼ lb £23, ½ lb £45.00. SPAIN ¼ lb £23.00, ½ lb £44.00. SWISS ¼ lb £23, ½ lb £45.00. THAILAND ¼ lb £23, ½ lb £45.00U.S.A ½ lb £25, 1 lb £48.00.

OFF PAPER MIXTURES

SPECIAL OFFER NO. 7: Buy 1 lb World, 1 lb British Commonwealth and 1 lb W. Europe Scoop for the discounted price of £130. List price £150.00.

WORLD SCOOP An Off paper mix scooped from our oddments tub. Emanating from Charities, Auctions, personal collections etc. You will find high Cat (please tell us when you do) & many additions for your collection. Each 1 lb lot is over 7000 stamps, costing around ½ p each. ½ lb £18.00, 1 lb £35.00, 5 lbs £155.00. Sale price ½ lb £16.00, 1 lb £31.00, 5 lbs £139.00.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH SCOOP Sold out over the last 8 months, we can now supply more of our popular Off paper mixture covering old Empire & modern Commonwealth. Several clients found stamps cataloguing £10 to £50 each. No promises but with at least 7,000 stamps/1lb you'll have great fun sorting. ½ lb £31.00, 1 lb £60.00. Sale price ½ lb £27.90, 1 lb £54.00.

WEST EUROPE SCOOP An Off paper mixture of small and large stamps with much earlier material. Many better and unusual values. In great demand as our interests in the EEC grow. Approx. 10,000 stamps to 1 lb costing around ½ p each. ½ lb £28.00, 1 lb £55.00. Sale price ½ lb £25.00, 1 lb £49.00.

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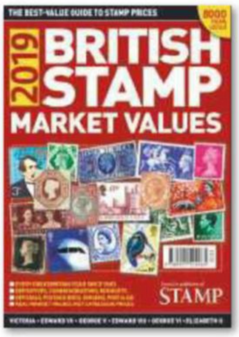
COMPETITION
Spot The Stamp

WIN

a copy of British Stamp Market Values 2019

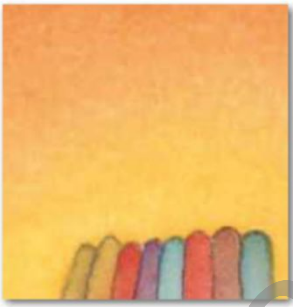


We have a copy of *British Stamp Market Values 2019*, the authoritative annual price guide from the publishers of *Stamp Magazine*, to give away to one eagle-eyed reader.

For your chance to win, simply take a close look at the enlarged detail of a GB stamp shown below, and see whether you can identify it. All you have to do is tell us the stamp's face value, the name of the set it is from and the year of issue.

Send your answer on a postcard (or sealed envelope), with your name and address, to Spot The Stamp (Aug), *Stamp Magazine*, My Time Media Ltd, Suite 25, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF.

The closing date is August 8, 2019, and the first correct answer drawn from our postbag will win the book. Good luck!



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COMPETITION
Royal Mail prizes

WIN

a Queen Victoria Bicentenary presentation pack

Royal Mail Stamps
QUEEN VICTORIA BICENTENARY

We have a presentation pack of the Queen Victoria stamp issue to give away to each of 12 lucky winners, courtesy of Royal Mail.

The set of six stamps portray the Queen at different stages of her life, while a miniature sheet celebrates the legacy of Prince Albert.

To enter, visit www.stampmagazine.co.uk/competitions, answer the question below and fill in your contact details. The closing date is August 8, 2019. Winners will be drawn at random after that date.

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QUESTION

Which estate was purchased by Prince Albert as a private residence in 1852?

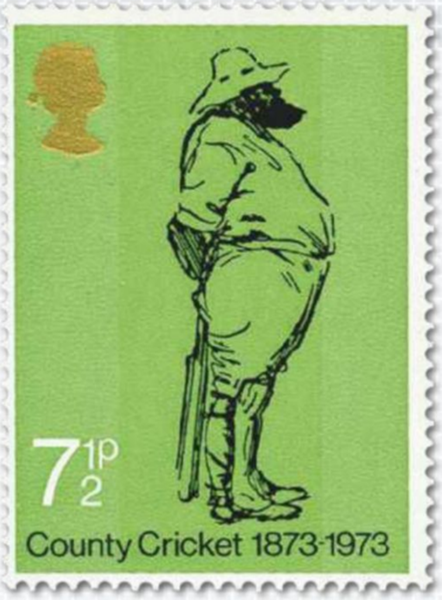
COMPETITION WINNERS

Marvel Super Heroes presentation pack

The answer to our competition question in the May issue was The Gherkin, and the 12 lucky winners whose correct answers were drawn at random were Robert Trees from Berwick-upon-Tweed, Simon Adams from Kings Lynn, Paul Silvester from Grimsby, Ashley Nicol from Dunstable, Sandeep Guntupalli from Leicester, Ian Davenport from Nuneaton, Marc Hurley from Chingford, Rob Robson from Scarborough, Phil Newis from Leeds, Vincent Walker from Middlesbrough, Allan Fullarton from Washington, and Karen Barrett from Bolton.

Spot The Stamp

The Spot The Stamp winner from the May issue is Colin Wright from Driffield, who correctly identified the mystery stamp (right) as the 7½p value from the 1973 Centenary of County Cricket set, reproducing a 19th-century sketch of W G Grace by Harry Furniss.



18+

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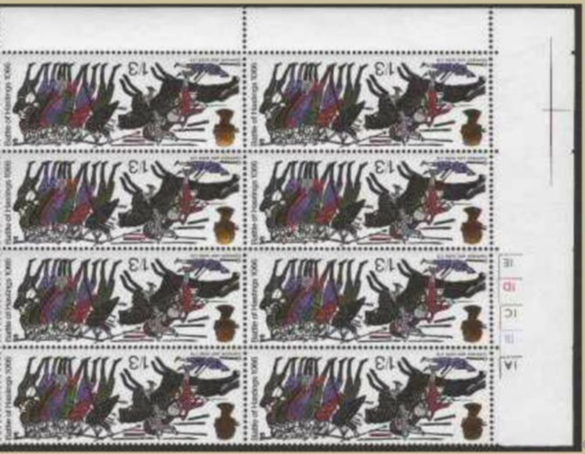
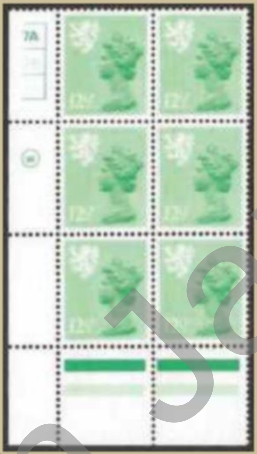
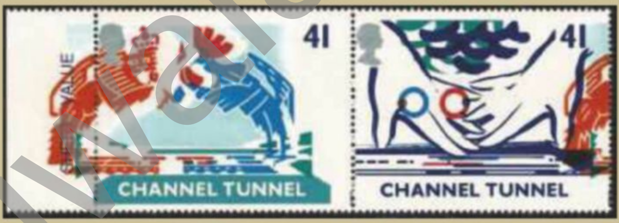
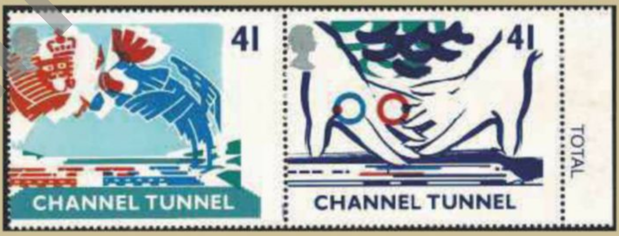
an Lasok-Smith(Philatelist) is pleased to announce that **GBandEmpireStamps** has now been expanded to cover Rest of the World stamps and related material. New extensive category listings are designed to cater for the specialist as well as the discerning general collector. An illustration of the range of areas covered is detailed below. This is not exhaustive and the site will continue to evolve.

Great Britain: Victoria, Four Kings, QEII, Wildings, Machins, Missing Colours, Colour & Perforation Shifts, Imperforates, Watermar Varieties, Phosphor & Embossing Errors, Constant Varieties, Booklets & Panes, Dues, Regionals, Postmarks, Postal Stationery, Posta History, Cinderellas…… the interesting and unusual. Listings suited to those who use references such as the Gibbons Concise Catalogue Gibbons Specialised GB Vols 1-5, Stoneham Catalogue, Woodstock Catalogue, MCC Catalogue……

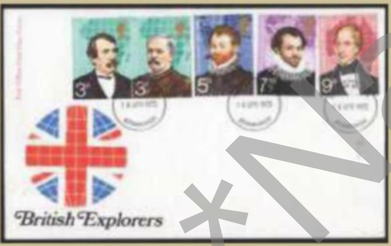


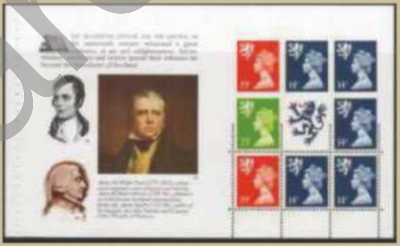


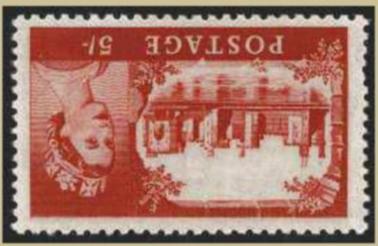


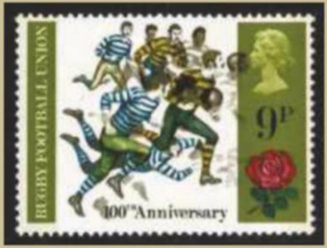


1966 Hastings 1/3 (ord). Extremely rare and possibly unique cylinder block of eight WATERMARK INVERTED. SG 712Wi……………..£800
Scotland 12½p light emerald FCP/PVA Left band Plate 7A7B block of six VARNISHED PAPER. Scarce……………………………………….£105
1994 Channel Tunnel 41p. Superb left marginal pair with multiple colour shifts……………………………………………………………….£245
1994 Channel Tunnel 41p. Superb right marginal pair with multiple colour shifts……………………………………………………………..£195









1973 Explorers 9p MISSING GOLD on unaddressed FDC…………………………………………………………………………………….£279
Scotland. Regional se-tenant pane ex "The Scots Connection" Prestige Book. Error PART IMPERF. SG XDS3c……………………………..£799
1963 5/- Red Castle High Value. WATERMARK INVERTED. SG 596aWi……………………………………………………………………….£275
1971 General Anniversaries 9p. Unmounted mint with superb SHIFT OF OLIVE BROWN "ghost players" SG 889 var……………………£120

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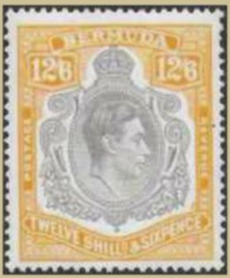
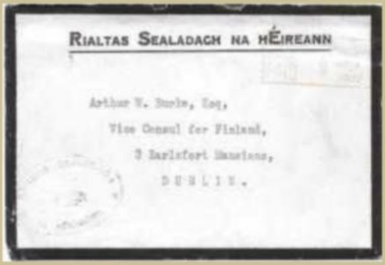
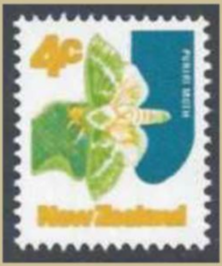
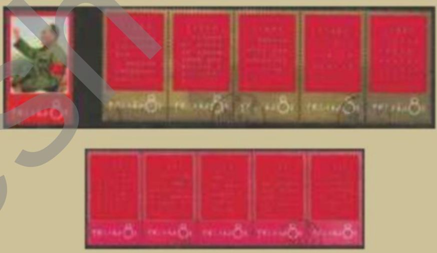
Commonwealth & British Empire: Abu Dhabi > British Occupation of Italian Colonies > Falkland Islands >Hong Kong > Morocco Agencies > Seychelles > Sudan > Transjordan > Zanzibar, Errors & Varieties, Omnibus Issues………Listings catering for those who use the Gibbons Commonwealth & British Empire Catalogue (Part 1) and the Gibbons Specialised Commonwealth series of catalogues.



Bermuda. Mounted mint 1938 12/6 grey and brownish orange perf 14. SG 120a……………………………………………………………………………………£72
Ireland. 1922 Mourning envelope and contents. Signed by LT Mac Cosgair (WT Cosgrave) soon to be President of the Executive Council of Irish Free State-The First President of the Republic of Ireland. Postal History of significant historic value……………………………………… .£375
New Zealand. Unmounted mint. 1973 definitives 4c. ERROR, MISSING PURPLE BROWN. SG 1011b………………………………………………£135
Falkland Islands. Lightly mounted mint 1952 definitive set complete to £1. SG 172-185…………………………………………………………………………£57
British Occupation of Italian Colonies. UM 1948 BMA Eritrea Postage Dues overprint set. SG ED1 – ED5……………………………………… …..£31

Rest of World: Everything from Afghanistan to Zaire that does not appear in listings above, miniature sheets, thematics……….Catering for collectors whether they use the Gibbons Stamps of the World Catalogue or the Gibbons Specialised Europe & Rest of World Catalogues.



Gaza (Egyptian Occupation). UM. 1953 complete set "King Farouk's" portrait obliterated with bars. SG 32-50……………………………£300
China. Fine used. 1967 "Thoughts of Mao Tse-Tung" SG 2343-2353………………………………………………………………………………………£575
Guinee. Mounted mint. Animals set to 300F. SG447.452…………………………………………………………………………………………………£3.50
Romania. Mounted mint 1938 Boy Scouts Fund. SG 1374-1384……………………………………………………………………………………………£8.50
Switzerland. Unmounted mint. Pro Patria Cultural Funds. Complete set SG 536-540…………………………………………………………………£7.00

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Famous footsteps

The most recognisable of all the stamps on the theme of space exploration was designed in secret, depicting an event which hadn't yet happened, and printed from a master die which had travelled 500,000 miles

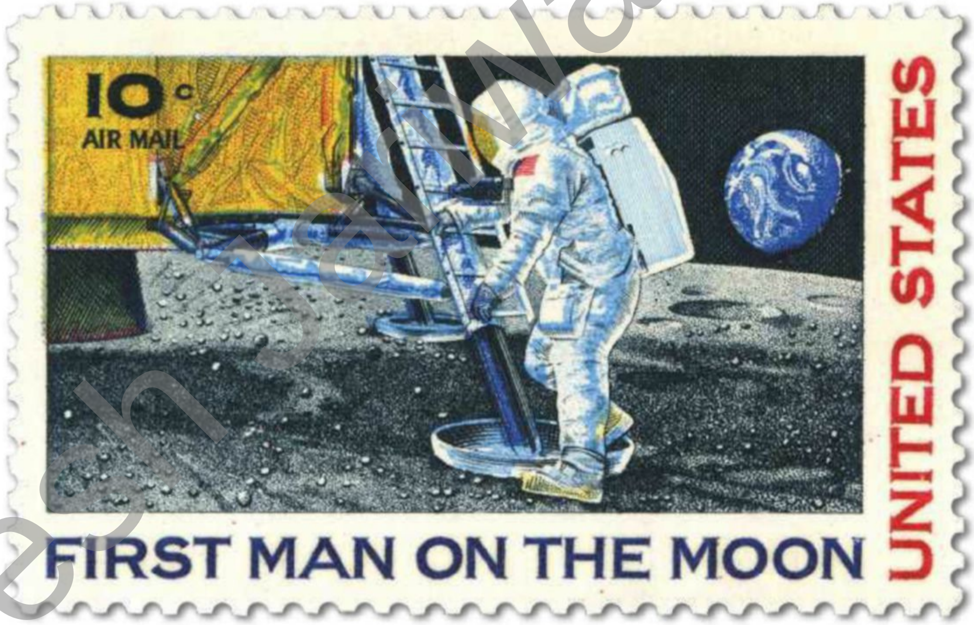
Report by Umberto Cavallaro and Jeff Dugdale

Thousands of commemorative stamps have been issued on the theme of space exploration, but there is little doubt as to which is the best known: the United States' 1969 First Man On The Moon 10c.

Designed by Paul Calle, NASA's official artist for the mission, it was issued seven weeks after the successful completion of the historic *Apollo 11* mission, and sold in vast numbers.

At the time it was the largest US postage stamp ever issued, 50% larger than conventional commemoratives and all the more spectacular as a result.

More significantly, it was special in that the master die, from which the printing plates were made, had first been carried to the surface of the Moon and back.



ABOVE: USA 1969 First Man on the Moon 10c, celebrating the success of the *Apollo 11* mission

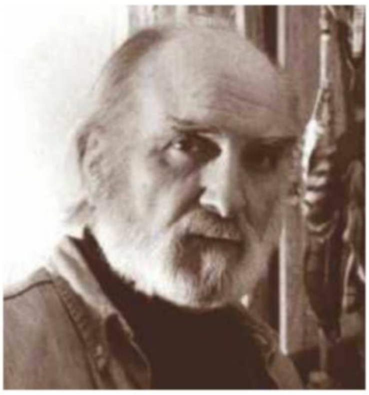
Secret mission

With the approval of President Richard Nixon, the design of the stamp was developed in secrecy by the US Post Office Department and the Bureau of Engraving & Printing, just as had been done with the 1962 stamp celebrating Project Mercury, which put the first American astronaut in space.

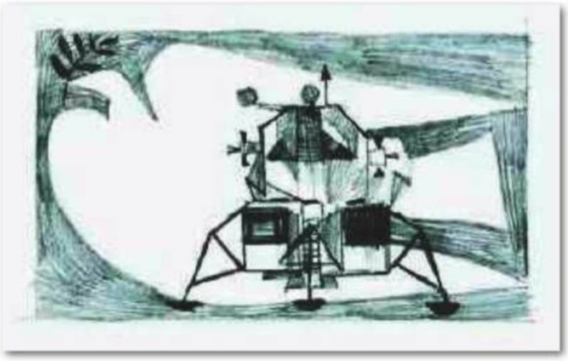
The project left no paper trail. Rather than using commercial services to carry messages between the Department and the Bureau, staff workers served as couriers. Those who didn't need to know about the stamp were not brought into the loop.

'The Postmaster General, Winton Blount, advised Stevan Dohanos, chairman of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, of the plan to issue a commemorative stamp, and I was recommended for the assignment,' recalled Calle, who had already worked extensively for the NASA Art Program, recording the story of the Apollo project.

'The fact that I was working for a NASA project in connection with the *Apollo 11* mission at the time afforded me easy access to material and key personnel who could help with technical problems.'



ABOVE: Paul Calle, official NASA artist and designer of the 1969 stamp



BELOW: One early concept for the stamp design included a dove as a symbol of peace

First steps

As he had done with the 1967 Space Achievements issue, a se-tenant pair illustrating *Gemini 4* and an astronaut conducting a spacewalk, Calle started by drawing a series of pencil sketches.

'My initial rough-thinking sketches explored the concept of a

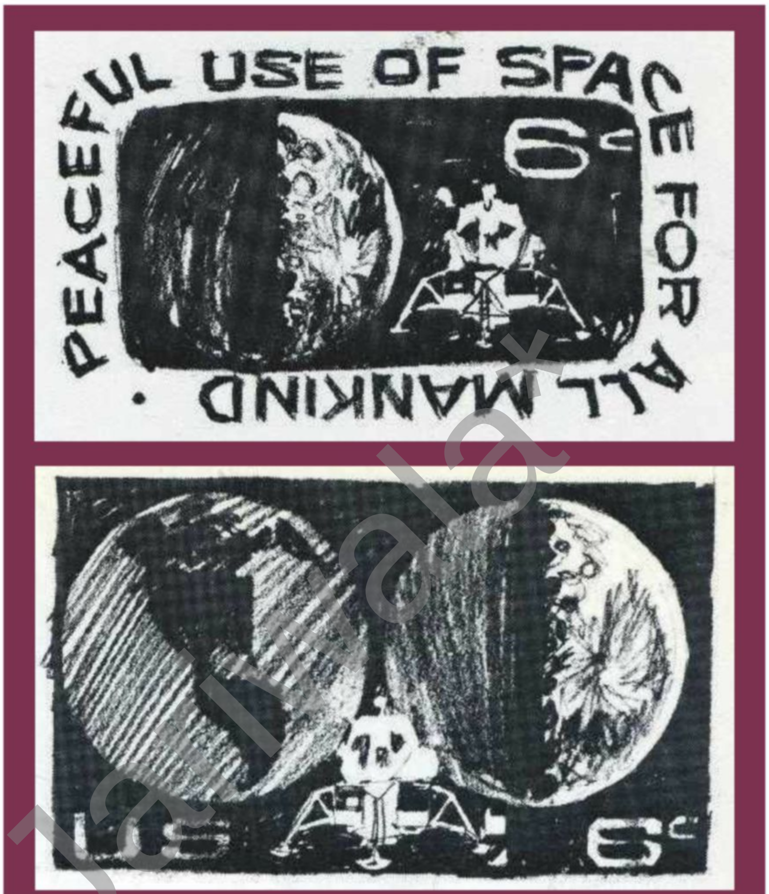
Naresh Jatwala

DID YOU KNOW?

Astonishingly, there are no formal photographs of Neil Armstrong on the Moon.

There was only one still camera used by the two astronauts, and it was built into the chest of Armstrong's spacesuit, so the photos are all of Buzz Aldrin.

In one famous photo, however, Armstrong's reflection can be seen in Aldrin's visor.


PEACEFUL USE OF SPACE FOR ALL MANKIND
6¢
US
6¢

ABOVE: Early horizontal sketches by Calle showing the lunar module in flight in front of the Moon, and in front of the Earth and Moon juxtaposed

design incorporating the Moon, the Earth and the lunar landing module, and a peace dove,' said Calle. The dove would represent the mission's declared objective: 'We came in peace for all mankind'.

It soon became clear, however, that a more realistic representation of a man on the Moon was preferred. The dove was cast aside, and Calle developed his ideas by way of sketches featuring an astronaut and the lunar module.

Some of these included the whole spacecraft, but at the suggestion of the Citizens' Committee the concept was progressively reduced to focus on the ladder from which the astronaut was descending. The aim was to concentrate on the man, leaving the technology in the background.

'In the evolution of the design, it quickly became obvious that the first step onto the Moon was the most dramatic moment,' Calle recalled. 'With that final sketch, we knew we had our design!'

Artistic licence

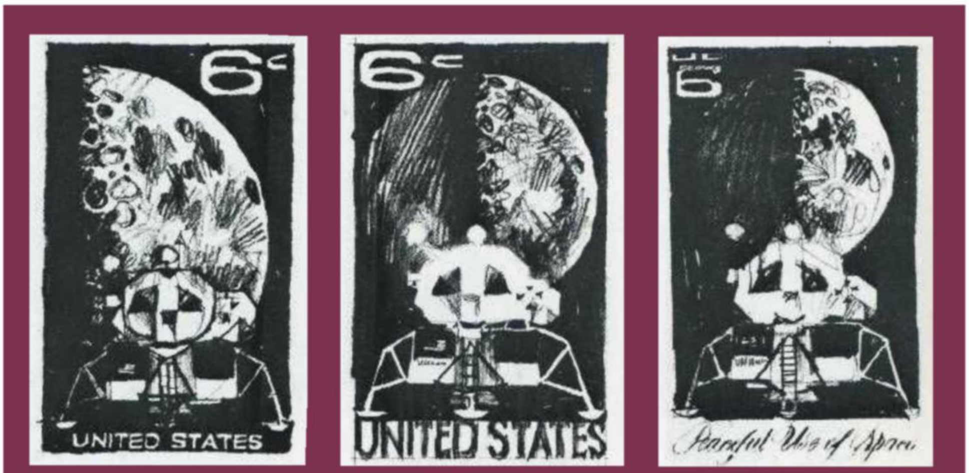
Although many of the sketches had been vertical-format, ultimately it was decided to opt for a horizontal-format design, which Calle finalised as a colour painting.

The artwork artistically imagined the moment at which an astronaut placed his foot onto the surface of the Moon for the first time, his white spacesuit contrasting sharply with the metallic sheen of the lunar module, the grey of the rocky ground and the black of space.

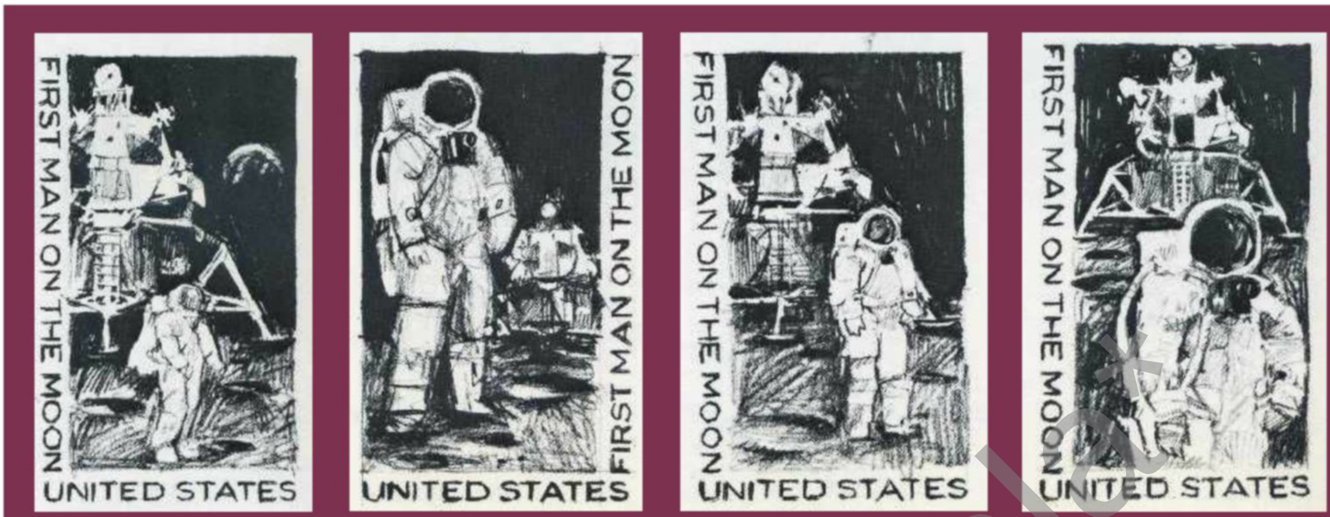
To emphasise the origins of this first human visitor, the Earth was shown low over the horizon in the background (from a photograph taken during the *Apollo 8* mission), but this was the product of considerable artistic licence: from the intended landing site at the scheduled time, the Earth would not be visible at that angle.

Out of this world

The painting was delivered to the Bureau of Engraving & Printing for the preparation of a master die. ▷



ABOVE: Early vertical sketches by Calle showing the lunar module in flight in front of the Moon


FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES

ABOVE: Later vertical sketches by Calle showing the lunar module landed and an astronaut on the Moon

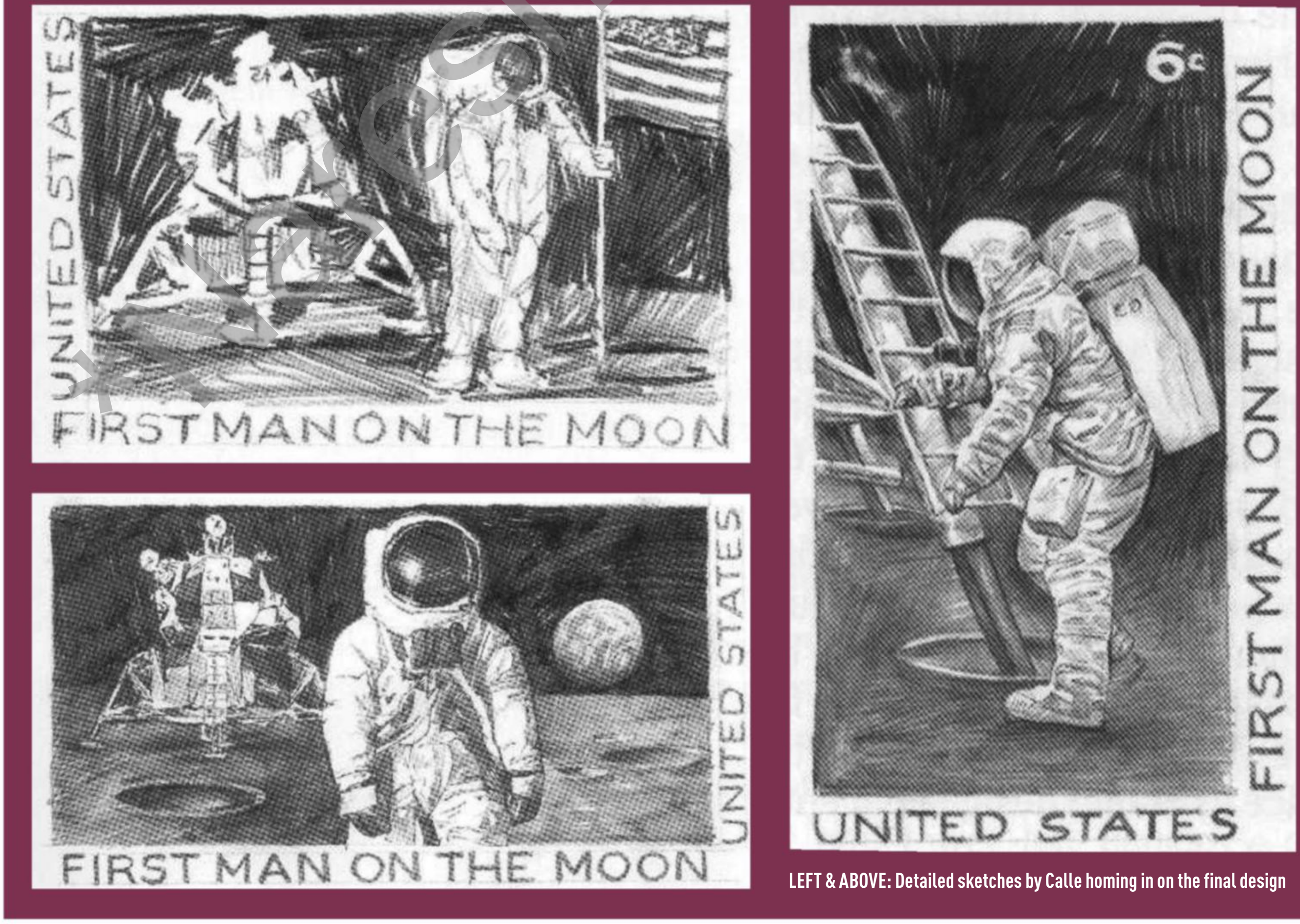
Robert Jones was the modeller, with the vignette engraved by Edward Felver and the lettering by Albert Saavedra.

The initial idea had been for a 6c stamp, covering the basic postal rate at the time for a domestic letter. At the last minute it was decided that it should be a 10c value instead, covering the basic airmail rate.

It wasn't until a week before the scheduled launch that the plan to issue a stamp was officially announced, with the *Apollo 11* mission rather bizarrely dubbed 'America's first mail run to the Moon'.

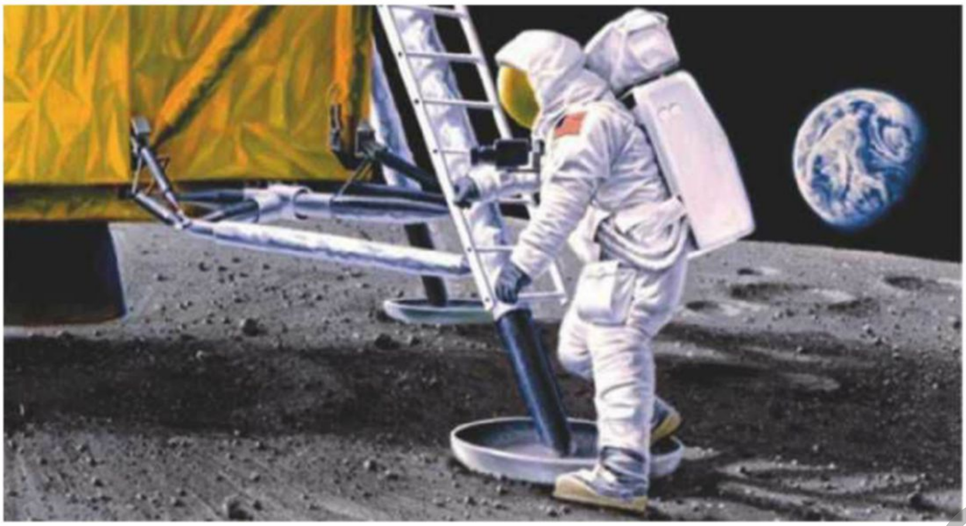
The master die was sent to the launch site at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral in Florida, together with a 'Moon letter' franked with an imperforate die proof. They started their journey to the Moon with the launch of *Apollo 11* on July 16, 1969, and landed with the lunar module in the Sea of Tranquillity on July 20.

The letter bearing the die proof was cancelled by the astronauts on their way back to Earth. In truth, they were supposed to have done this in the lunar module on the Moon's surface, but they forgot. It seems they had higher priorities!


UNITED STATES
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
6c
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES

LEFT & ABOVE: Detailed sketches by Calle homing in on the final design

* Jagesh Jariwala *



ABOVE: Calle's painting of the final design, which was the basis for the stamp engraving

MOON LANDING
JUL
20
1969
USA
10¢
AIR MAIL
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES

© COURTESY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

ABOVE: The 'Moon letter', bearing an imperforate colour die proof of the stamp, which was carried to the Moon by Apollo 11 and cancelled by the astronauts on their way back to Earth with a 'Moon Landing' datestamp of July 20

10¢
AIR MAIL
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES

LEFT: Astronauts Michael Collins, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin with Postmaster General Winton Blount at the unveiling ceremony for the stamp in September 1969

> *'US law forbids the portrayal of a living person on postage stamps, so the image was carefully described simply as a spaceman'*

Priority printing

On their return from their 500,000-mile round trip, the three astronauts had to spend three weeks in quarantine, in case they had brought any pathogens back from the Moon. The master die, however, was one of the artefacts earmarked for accelerated decontamination, before being flown to the Washington office of the Postmaster General.

Blount provided press photographers with a quick look at the die on July 31, then sent it back to the Bureau of Engraving & Printing, where the process of preparing the plates for stamp production began promptly.

The issue was printed by a combination of recess and offset photolithography. Yellow and light blue were applied in one pass through the two-colour Harris offset press, and red and dark blue in a second pass. Then a single pass through a Giori press added black for the vignette, blue for the inscription 'First Man On The Moon' horizontally at the bottom, and red for the inscription 'United States' vertically at the right.

A total of 152,264,000 stamps were printed, in sheets of 128 comprising four panes of 32.

Identity crisis

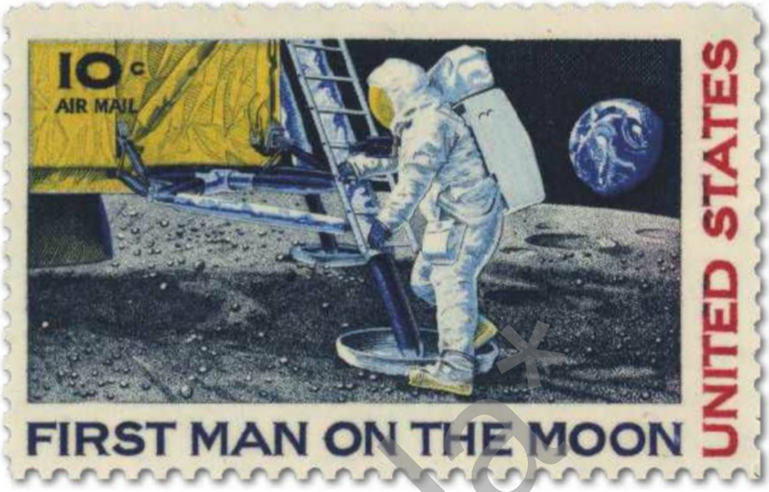
The issue was formally launched on September 9, 1969, at a ceremony held in conjunction with the National Postal Forum in Washington DC. The three astronauts attended the event, along with business executives and post office officials.

As US federal law forbids the portrayal of a living person on postage stamps, the Post Office Department was careful to describe the subject of the stamp simply as 'a spaceman'. It claimed that the image was symbolic, not literal; it was a tribute not to a person but ▷

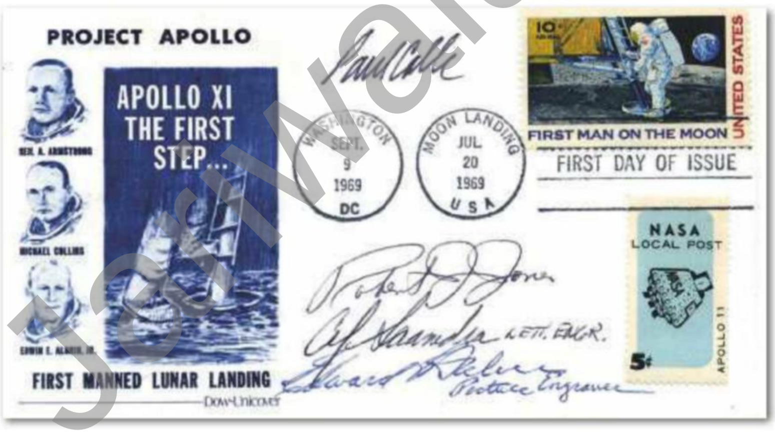
Naresh Jain

rather to the achievement of landing men on the Moon.

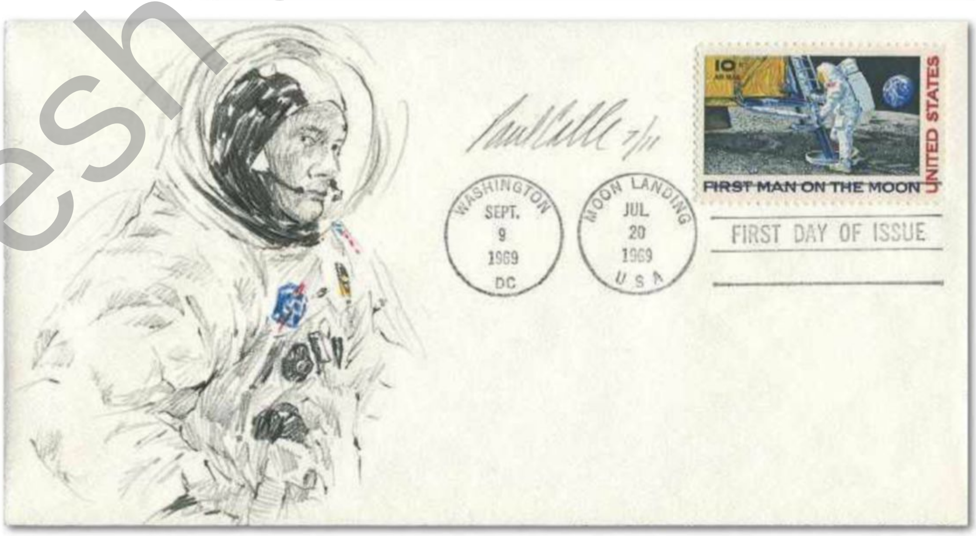
It helped that the individual illustrated was completely covered by his spacesuit, but of course there were only two people it could have been, Neil Armstrong or Buzz Aldrin. Naturally the general assumption was that it was Armstrong, and the inscription did nothing to dispel that notion.


10c
AIR MAIL
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES

RIGHT: 1969 First Man on the Moon 10c missing red, which affects the flag on the astronaut's shoulder patch, and the shading on the lunar module and the astronaut's visor


PROJECT APOLLO
APOLLO XI
THE FIRST
STEP...
NEIL A. ARMSTRONG
MICHAEL COLLINS
EDWIN E. ALDRIN, JR.
FIRST MANNED LUNAR LANDING
Dow-Unicover
Paul Calle
WASHINGTON SEPT. 9 1969 DC
MOON LANDING JUL 20 1969 USA
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
NASA LOCAL POST
5¢
APOLLO 11
Robert J. Jones
Al Saavedra LETT. ENGR.
Edward Felver Picture Engraver

RIGHT: Dow-Unicover first day cover signed by the stamp's designer Paul Calle, modeller Robert Jones, lettering engraver Albert Saavedra and picture engraver Edward Felver, with one of the NASA Local Post cinderellas produced by the Space City Cover Society


Paul Calle 7/11
WASHINGTON SEPT. 9 1969 DC
MOON LANDING JUL 20 1969 USA
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
UNITED STATES
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

ABOVE: First day cover illustrated, signed and dated by the stamp designer Paul Calle

Printing problems

With multicoloured printing being relatively new technology, the Bureau of Engraving & Printing had some problems with registration, and many of the stamps have noticeable shifts in the offset colours. Some of these were identified and destroyed, while others reached the philatelic market.

The one missing colour error, first found in El Paso, Texas, about a month after the issue date, is a lack of red from the second pass through the offset press. This affects the flag on the astronaut's shoulder patch, and the shading dots over the yellow portions of the lunar module and the astronaut's visor, but not the 'United States' inscription.

With no American flag appearing on the spacesuit, this error was immediately dubbed the 'unknown astronaut' variety, perhaps symbolic of space being conquered for all mankind rather than by an individual country?

Copious covers

Official first day covers would receive not only a Washington DC datestamp of September 9, but also a replica of the 'Moon Landing USA' July 20 datestamp which the astronauts had taken to the Moon.

The Post Office Department anticipated great interest among collectors, and ordered 25 postmarking devices in advance. But the success of the issue exceeded every expectation, fuelling unprecedented demand.

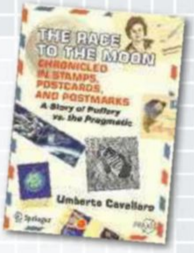
Ultimately, 8,743,070 first day covers were produced, which the Department described as an 'astronomical' figure, almost double the number for the immensely popular Elvis Presley commemorative stamp of 1993.

Requests were received from more than 100 countries, and were especially heavy from Britain, France, Belgium and Australia.

The processing crew of 40 was quickly expanded to 100 employees, but still it took five months to complete the task, so the concept of the 'first day' cancellation was stretched well beyond its normal limits!

Pictorial envelopes were created by many different cover producers, some of the most attractive being illustrated and signed by Calle himself. ■

THE AUTHORS


THE RACE TO THE MOON
CHRONICLED IN STAMPS, POSTCARDS, AND POSTMARKS
A Story of Puffery vs. the Pragmatic
Umberto Cavallaro
Springer
PRAXIS

Umberto Cavallaro is the author of *The Race To The Moon Chronicled In Stamps, Postcards & Postmarks* (Springer/Praxis, 2018), and the editor of the quarterly Italian astrophilatelic journal *Ad Astra*.

Jeff Dugdale is editor of *Orbit*, the quarterly journal of the British-based Astro Space Stamp Society. Visit www.astrospacestampsociety.com

Naresh Jaiswal

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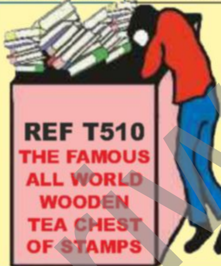
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CD389 CATS & DOGS A fantastic collection of cats & dogs on stamps. A vast variety of different breeds of these popular pets. Hundreds of different cats & dogs stamps..Price £16.50

COR.72 CORONATION STREET Irregular Royal Mail usage postal history cover. The illustrated cover bears a Coronation Street stamp tied to the cover with “Weatherfield 35”, anniv. PMK 9/12/95. Re-posted 5 years later contrary to Post Office regulations, the Royal Mail has postmarked a ‘St. Mary's’ Scilly Isles Coronation Street stamp with official Royal Mail PMK dated 9/12/2000 on the 40th anniv. We are not aware of any other time when the Royal Mail has allowed a local stamp to be postmarked officially.........Price £42

GB.12 GREAT BRITAIN AIR MAIL UNADOPTED ESSAY Imperforate, depicts Queen Elizabeth II and aircraft “£” high value denomination. Ex-special exhibition sheet.......................................Price £7.25

DAM.75 DAMBUSTERS A historic WWII cover from Jersey commemorating the 75th anniv. of “Operation Chastise”, the famous Dambusters Air Raid on 16th May 1943. The cover depicts the Dambusters aircraft and bears a Jersey stamp issue showing the Dambusters crew of 7 heroes and plane. Postmarked on the anniv. date 16/5/18. Due to severely restricted issue of only 50 covers this must be one of the scarcest Jersey WWII covers.....................Price £13.50

AH92 AUSTRIA/HUNGARY & BOSNIA A superb stamp collection. Noted Bosnia Austro-Hungarian military post stamps of 1900 (these are offered for sale “as is” without guarantee), they form part of a larger collection of genuine Austria & Hungary with mint and used stamps. If all the stamps were genuine the catalogue value would be over £550, but some stamps may be faux. Offered “as is”.........................Price £21

BA.47 BAHAWULPUR, PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH A lovely collection of mint Bahawulpur, plus Pakistan and Bangladesh. Over 160 different mint and used stamps......... Price £16

EU.105 EUROPEAN COLONIES A specialised collection of Spanish, Portuguese and French colonial stamps, includes stamps from over twenty different European territories and obscure colonies. Over 100 different stamps with unmounted mint and used and early engraved stamps ....Price £19.50

SJ53a BARDSEY ISLAND (Welsh Local Issue) A superb specialised group of Unmounted Mint (complete sets). Stamps from this small Welsh Island rarely get offered for sale ....Price £7

MA275 MALTA A quality collection of Maltese unmounted mint stamps. Over 100 stamps dating back to King George VI to more modern.............Price £11.50

GB.44 GREAT BRITAIN IMPERFORATE PROOFS 1978 Coronation anniv. stamps SG.1061 and 1062, 11p and 13p values. Both printed in black and gold instead of green & violet. Both stamps are completely imperforate and overprinted “PROOF” in red. Pair of scarce stamps ....Price £22

SA 92 SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICA A fantastic accumulation of comprising of only unmounted mint stamps in part sheets, multiples, blocks and singles ranging from older engraved stamps to the more recent. Includes: Nicaragua, (Underprints noted) Chile, Colombia, Argentina, Venezuela, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay, Brazil, Mexico & Dominica. This hoard of unsorted unmounted mint stamps, is unchecked for catalogue value and is estimated at over one thousand five hundred (1500) unm. mint stamps. For sale at the low price of only..Price £48

GB 93 CONCORDE An essay for the 1959 G.P.O. Concorde stamp. A submitted design for the 4d denomination in blue unwatermarked, imperforate with large margin. Unmounted mint essay ex-exhibition sheet..Price £12

DOM.23 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Unusual investors group of Dominican miniature sheets. A duplicated group of unmounted mint better higher catalogue items, with a catalogue value of over £140. Also includes a small collection of Dominica stamps not counted in the £140 catalogue value ....Special low price £25

IS.231 ISRAEL A superb collection of Israeli stamps. All unmounted mint with descriptive tabs. Well over 100 different & first day covers ....Price £15

GB.4K GREAT BRITAIN Postal History Cover for British Parliaments enactment of the stamp act. Commemorating the 250th anniv. of the Stamp Act. In 1766 the controversial stamp act was a major cause of the American Revolution. Benjamin Franklin appealed to the British House of Commons and the act was repealed. The historic cover of which only fifty exist, bears the Royal Mail illustrated ship postmark dated 1/11/15. The cover also depicts the 1766 British One Penny Stamp which pre-dated the famous 1d Black Stamp of 1840 by sixty-four years......................Price £19.50

GB38 GREAT BRITAIN Historic Commemorative cover for the 530th Anniversary of the Battle of Bosworth Field. Less than fifty covers are known to exist, mostly now in collectors' hands and elusive to locate; depicting a superb illustration of the last battle of the War of the Roses; one of the most decisive battles in English History. The cover bears the GB green “pound note stamp” tied with Royal Mail official King Richard III illustrated postmark, dated 22/08/15, the anniversary date 530 years later ....Price £13

HK145 HONG KONG A fine collection of used stamps of Hong Kong. Almost all the stamps pre date the handover to China. Including $ values and popular Chinese New Year Commemoratives. Totally unchecked for catalogue value, over 100 old Hong Kong stamps ....Price £11

NJB.30 JAMES BOND A fantastic collection of James Bond stamps including sets, miniature sheets and singles with several scarcer unlisted. James Bond stamp sets ....Price £19.25

VIC.95 GREAT BRITAIN POSTAL HISTORY Historic Queen Victorian 1d black stamp of 1840. An extremely scarce commemorative cover depicted Sir Rowland Hill. Only 50 of this scarce cover were postmarked by the Royal Mail. Bearing official Royal Mail 1d black stamp tied to the cover with black Maltese Cross anniv. PMK dated 6.5.2015 In addition, the cover bears an imperforate (4 margin) 1d black stamp printed by the Royal Mail from official special sheet and tied to the cover with red Maltese Cross. Only a tiny restricted issue of 50 covers exist..Price £26

JA13 JANE AUSTEN The highly collectable commemorative cover for the 200th anniv. Of Jane Austen. (A restrictive issue of only 60 covers. Bearing Royal Mail Jane Austen stamps with official Jane Austen illustrated anniv. PMK ....Price £8.60

GBX13 GREAT BRITAIN Royal Mail presentation packs and illustrated First Day covers. Also unmounted mint commemoratives, definitives and miniature sheets. Not counting mint stamps, the presentation packs and First Day covers have a combined catalogue value of over £160 ....Price £41.25

MI349 MALDIVE ISLANDS An impressive stamp collection of only unmounted mint blocks of Maldive Island Stamps. The collection is rich in thematic commemoratives. Several hundred mint Maldive Islands stamps ....Price £16

R88A NAZI GERMAN Occupation of World War II various Croatia Bohemia and Moravia. Occupation of Poland General government (Theresienstadt and Lodz Ghetto these may not be genuine) plus various other Germany period Hitler issues. Mainly genuine unmounted mint/used................................Price £10

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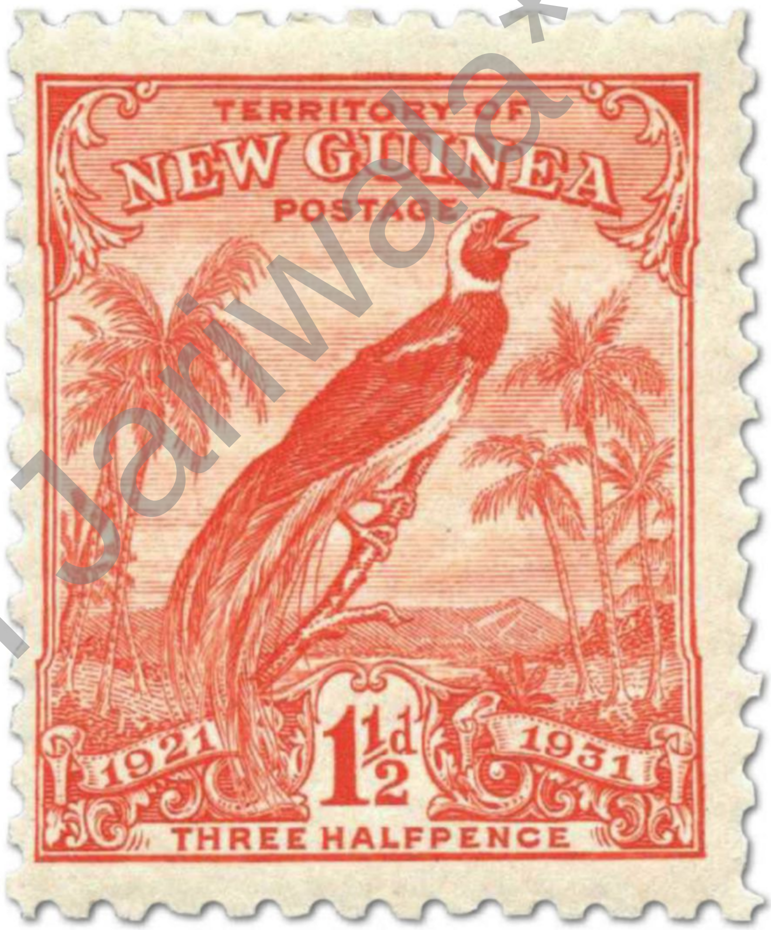
Paradise found

The bird-of-paradise motif adopted for New Guinea's first commemorative set, and then its second definitive series, became an icon of the Australian territory

■ **Report by John Winchester**



RIGHT: New Guinea 1931 1½d vermilion marking the 10th Anniversary of Australian Administration, illustrating the Raggiana bird-of-paradise

New Guinea was a target for Dutch, German and British empire-builders, who divided it between them in the 19th century. But German New Guinea, the north-eastern sector of the island, was seized by an Australian Expeditionary Force during World War I.

After the war Australia was granted control of the region under a League of Nations mandate. It was named the Territory of New Guinea, distinct from the Australia's existing Territory of Papua, immediately to the south.

New Guinea's first definitive stamps were issued in 1925. As the 10th anniversary of Australian Administration approached in 1931, however, a commemorative set was planned.

The Melbourne-based printer John Ash was commissioned to produce 13 values, ranging from 1d to £1, sharing a single design.

Looking for a motif which would reflect the unexplored wildness of New Guinea, Ash chose a male Raggiana bird-of-paradise (named by an Italian naturalist after his patron, Count Francesco Raggi), a species renowned for its extravagant feathers and exotic courtship dance.

The bird was attractively engraved, perched on a branch in a jungle setting, below the name of the territory and above a value tablet flanked by the scrolled dates '1921' and '1931'.

Each value was recess-printed in a single colour on unwatermarked wove paper, perforated 11.

The set went on sale on August 2, 1931, along with a parallel series overprinted for airmail use, and with an additional ½d value making it a set of 14.

The overprint consisted of a black, sans-serif 'Air Mail' and an image of a biplane, positioned to avoid obscuring the main image.

Ten denominations, from 1d to 5s, were also overprinted 'OS', to serve as official stamps.

In 1932, once the anniversary had run its course, both the standard and airmail stamps were re-engraved and reissued without the scrolled dates, to serve as a definitive issue, with several extra denominations added in 1934.

These remained in use almost until the end of the 1930s, and the 1d and 2d values were overprinted 'His Majesty's/Jubilee/1910-1935' to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of King George V in 1935.

Eventually they would be replaced by the Bulolo Goldfields series, but the bird-of-paradise motif would be revived again in future stamps. It is now the national bird of Papua New Guinea, the unitary independent successor state to the two Australian territories. ■

> *'Once the anniversary of Australian Administration had run its course, the stamps were re-engraved as a definitive issue'*

MARKET VALUES

The 1931 commemorative set is catalogued at £425 mint and £550 used, with the price largely driven by the three top values of 5s, 10s and £1.

The overprinted airmail set is a little less expensive, as are the 1932-34 definitive sets.

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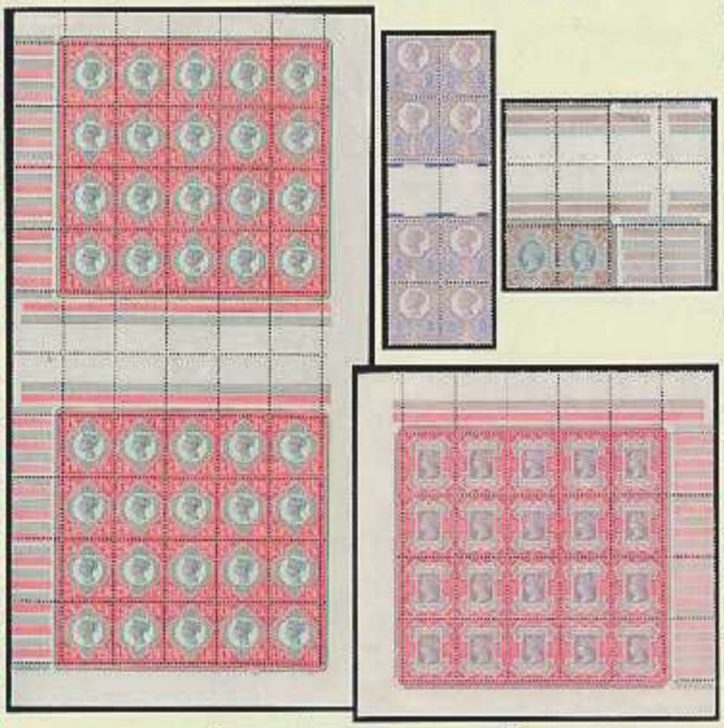

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Over the moon?

Philatelic commemorations of the first Moon landing by Apollo 11 now span 50 years, and encompass thousands of stamps from countries across the globe. Many are similar, but which ones stand out from the crowd?

Report by Jeff Dugdale

As one of the greatest technological achievements in history, the landing of men on the Moon on July 20, 1969, merited international philatelic recognition, and has received it.

Besides various issues from the United States, *Apollo 11* has been honoured by many other countries, and exploited by various philatelic agencies. More than 3,500 stamps have celebrated aspects of the mission over the past five decades, surely more than have been inspired by any other single event.

Although it was in practical terms an American achievement, it has always been viewed as a landmark for the human race, and this sentiment was encouraged by the famous mission statement 'We came in peace, for all mankind'.

More than 900 stamps reference Neil Armstrong alone, before any 50th anniversary issues in 2019 are considered, which means that he is the third most commemorated historical figure in philately, after Jesus Christ and Yuri Gagarin.

By the end of this year, he will probably have moved up to number two in that ranking.

Thematic appeal

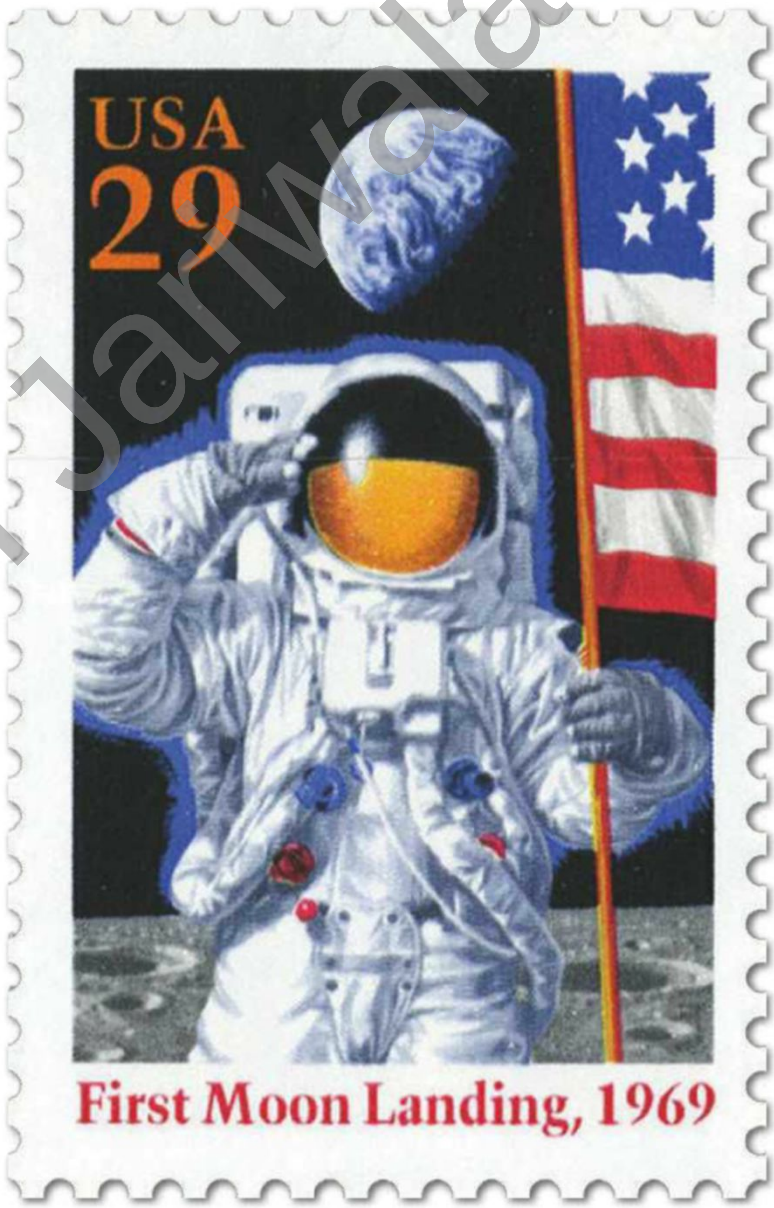
Each significant anniversary has produced tranches of new stamps.

There was a plethora of issues while the Apollo programme was still in progress, and when it came to an end in 1972 after nine missions to the Moon and six landings.

The 20th and 25th anniversaries in 1989 and 1994 saw a huge spike in the numbers of stamps, at a time when space exploration was at its peak as a collecting theme.

This year there will be another substantial boost to the total, even though the 'space race' is no longer in the news.

RIGHT: United States 1994 $9.95 high-value stamp marking the 25th anniversary of the first Moon landing by *Apollo 11*

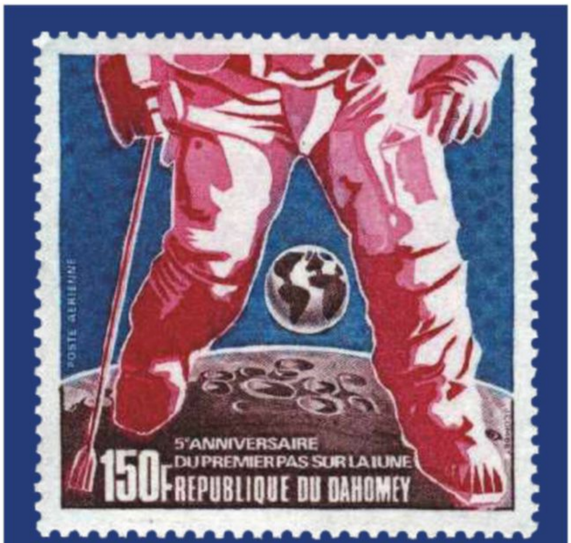


Popular images

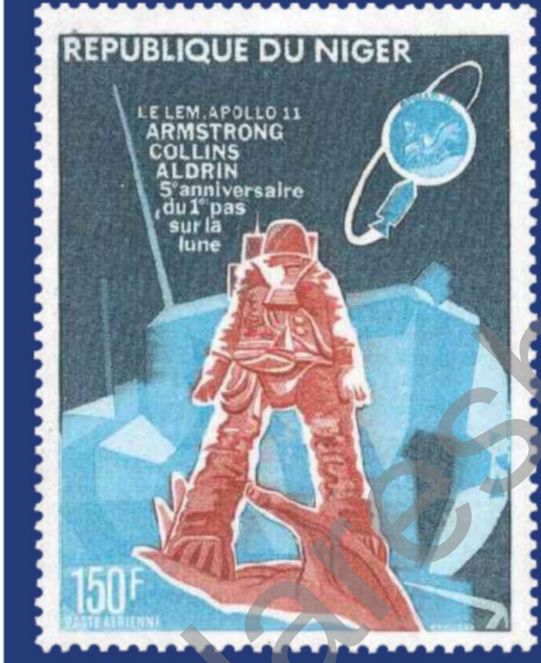
Unlike the designers of stamps commemorating the first manned space missions by the Soviet Union, which were too secretive to release photographs or accurate drawings, and therefore left much to guesswork, those producing issues celebrating *Apollo 11* have had a sizeable cache of NASA images which they could draw upon.

But even this resource is finite, so avoiding repetition and cliché has often been challenging.

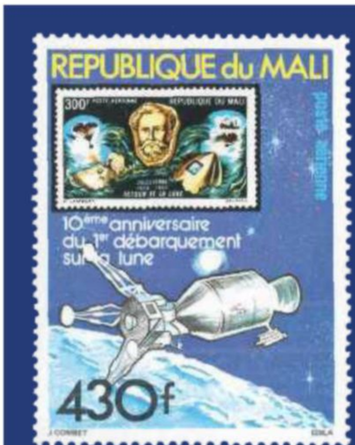
Recurring motifs have included the launch of the *Saturn V* rocket from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, the command module


POSTE AERIENNE
150F
5e ANNIVERSAIRE DU PREMIER PAS SUR LA LUNE
REPUBLIQUE DU DAHOMEY

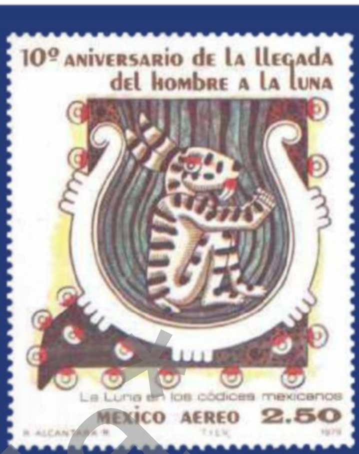
ABOVE: Dahomey 1974 150f, viewing the Earth through an astronaut's legs to suggest how tiny it is in universal terms


REPUBLIQUE DU NIGER
LE LEM APOLLO 11
ARMSTRONG
COLLINS
ALDRIN
5e anniversaire du 1er pas sur la lune
150F
POSTE AERIENNE

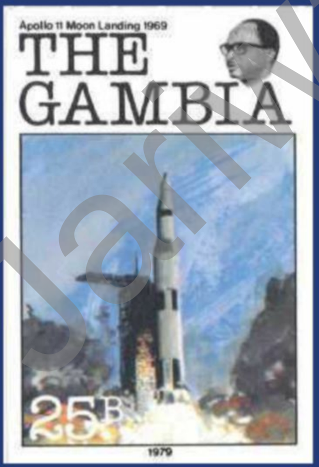
ABOVE: Niger 1974 150f, showing an astronaut lifted up by a female hand


REPUBLIQUE du MALI
poste aérienne
10ème anniversaire du 1er débarquement sur la lune
430f

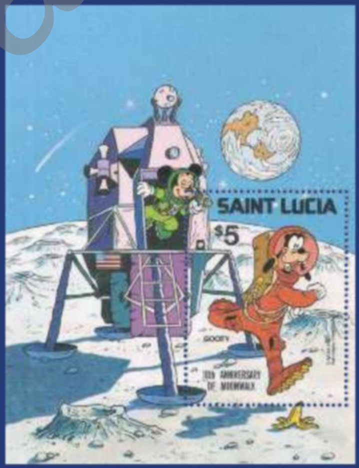
ABOVE: Mali 1979 430f, a stamp-on-stamp design hailing the author Jules Verne as a prophet of space travel


10º Aniversario de la llegada del hombre a la luna
La Luna en los códices mexicanos
MEXICO AEREO 2.50

ABOVE: Mexico 1979 2.50p, featuring a Moon symbol from Aztec mythology, in the form of a striped rabbit sitting in a pot


Apollo 11 Moon Landing 1969
THE GAMBIA
25B
1979

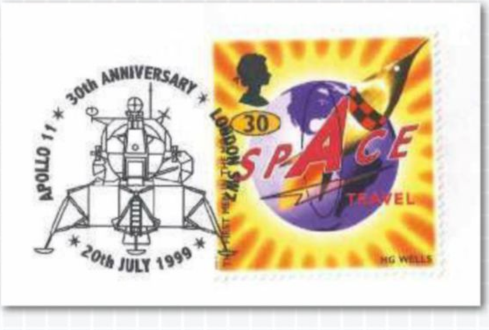
ABOVE: Gambia 1979 25b, part of a rouletted self-adhesive set sold with a presentation booklet


SAINT LUCIA
$5
GOOFY
10th ANNIVERSARY OF MOONWALK

ABOVE: St Lucia 1979 $5 miniature sheet, celebrating space exploration using Disney cartoon characters

BRITISH INPUT

Although Great Britain has never issued a stamp commemorating *Apollo 11*, you can find souvenir covers with special handstamps produced in Britain for various anniversaries.


APOLLO 11 ★ 30th ANNIVERSARY ★ LONDON SW7
★ 20th JULY 1999 ★
30
SPACE TRAVEL
HG WELLS

Columbia in orbit around the Moon, the lunar module *Eagle* after landing at Tranquillity Base, Armstrong climbing down the ladder, a footprint on the surface, planting the American flag, conducting scientific experiments, the spectacle of 'Earthrise' as our planet appeared over the horizon, take-off from the lunar surface, and splashdown in the Pacific Ocean.

Ironically, few of these thematic issues are eligible for astrophilately exhibits, under FIP rules which stipulate that only material available on the day of the event being celebrated qualifies as legitimate, and that covers or maximum cards should be cancelled at the closest post office!

Fifth anniversary

Curiously, there were just four stamps marking the fifth anniversary in 1974, all artistically designed and engraved for a group of former French colonies.

Cameroun's focused on boots on the lunar surface, and Gabon's on an American bald eagle motif, in both cases dwarfing images of astronauts. More interesting were Dahomey's, with a view of a tiny-looking Earth seen through an astronaut's legs, and Niger's, illustrating an astronaut being lifted up by a female hand.

10th anniversary

Almost 30 countries produced issues for the 10th anniversary in 1979. Most of these were sets of between three and eight stamps using predictable images, but there were some unusual approaches.

Mali issued the first stamp-on-stamp set in this theme, reprising its own issues of 1970 and 1973, the former lauding the French science-fiction writer Jules Verne as a prophet of space travel.

St Lucia produced the first set ▷

Naresh Janwar

celebrating space exploration using Disney cartoon characters, including a high-value miniature sheet which showed Goofy leaping from the lunar module onto the Moon, about to slip on an unexplained banana skin.

Along with rouletted self-adhesive stamps, Gambia offered an elaborate presentation booklet telling the story of the *Apollo 11* mission in considerable detail.

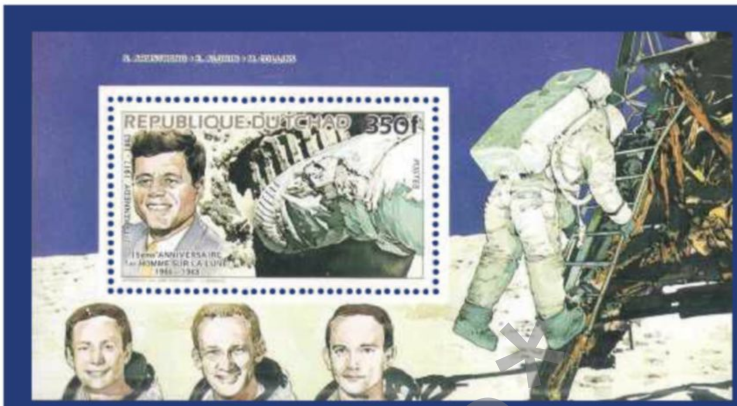
But the oddest issue came from Mexico, showing a Moon symbol from Aztec mythology: a pot with a striped rabbit sitting in it!

> *'Neil Armstrong is about to become the second most commemorated historical figure in philately, after Jesus Christ'*

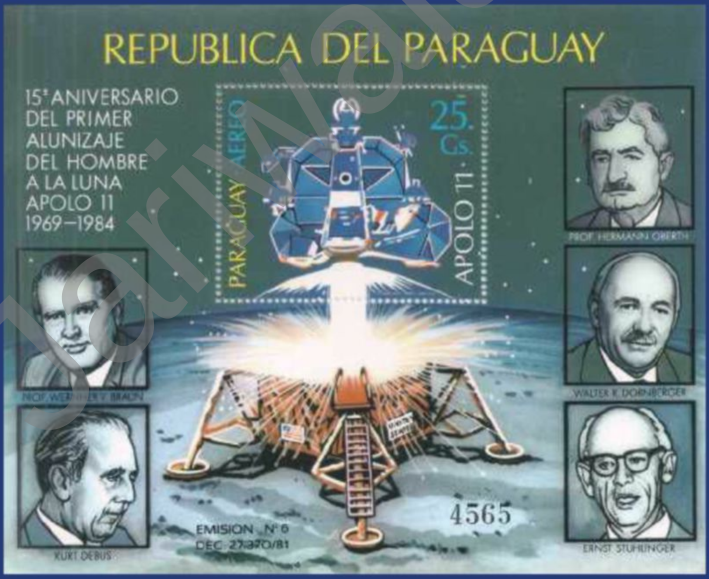
15th anniversary

The 15th anniversary in 1984 attracted a just a handful of issues, from seven countries.

Among these were a thoughtful miniature sheet from Chad, with a single stamp illustrating a lunar footprint alongside a portrait of US President John F Kennedy, who had established Project Apollo in 1961. The border showed an astronaut descending the ladder from the lunar module, and portraits of the *Apollo 11* crew: Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins.


REPUBLIQUE DU TCHAD
350f

ABOVE: Chad 1983 350f miniature sheet, portraying former US President John F Kennedy on the stamp and the three *Apollo 11* astronauts in the border


REPUBLICA DEL PARAGUAY
15° ANIVERSARIO DEL PRIMER ALUNIZAJE DEL HOMBRE A LA LUNA APOLO 11 1969–1984
PARAGUAY AEREO
25. Gs.
APOLO 11
PROF. HERMANN OBERTH
WALTER R. DORNBERGER
ERNST STUHLINGER
KURT DEBUS
EMISION Nº 6
DEC. 27/370/81
4565

ABOVE: Paraguay 1984 25g miniature sheet, showing take-off from the Moon and portraying five of the German rocket scientists who paved the way for American space travel in the border

A miniature sheet from Paraguay, meanwhile, depicted take-off from the Moon in colourful and dramatic fashion, while the border honoured much earlier influences on the potential of space travel. It portrayed the German rocket scientists, led by Wernher von Braun, who were spirited away to the United States at the end of World War II to develop its missile, satellite and space capabilities.

20th anniversary

The most impressive of the stamps issued for the 20th anniversary in 1989 was the $2.40 high value from the United States.

Designed by Chris Calle (the son of Paul Calle, who had created the famous 10c stamp of 1969), it took a very patriotic stance, showing the American flag being planted by astronauts in a cratered terrain.

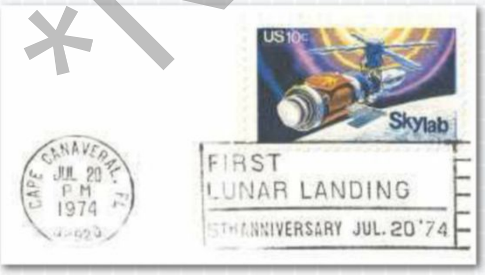
This anniversary was also generously marked internationally, not least by way of an omnibus issue in which 11 Commonwealth countries and the Republic of Liberia participated.

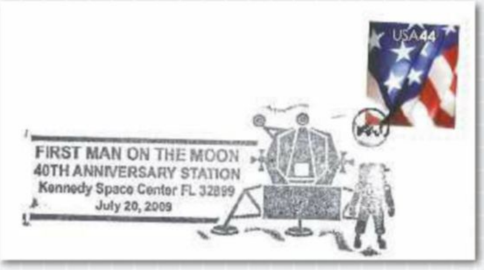
Faced with the challenge of producing something different, this omnibus comprised a series of miniature sheets which together covered aspects of the entire mission in alphabetical and chronological order: from Ascension, which featured a diagram of the planning of the mission, to Zil Elwannyen Sesel (Seychelles), which showed the return capsule being hauled aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Hornet* in the Pacific Ocean.

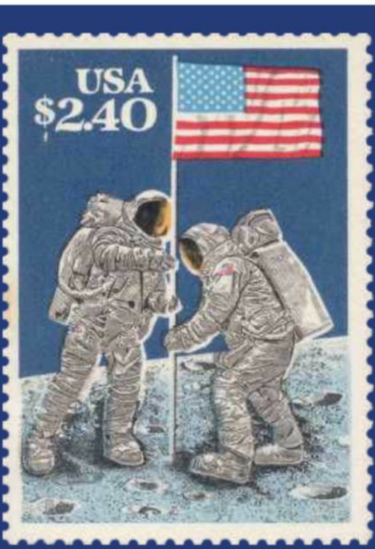
One unusual image was provided by the Bahamas sheet, which

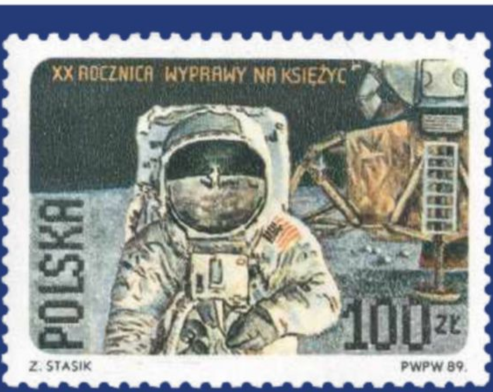
US POSTMARKS

United States cancellations have marked all major anniversaries of the *Apollo 11* mission, and would make quite an extensive collection in their own right.


US 10c
Skylab
CAPE CANAVERAL, FL
JUL 20
P M
1974
FIRST
LUNAR LANDING
5TH ANNIVERSARY JUL. 20 '74

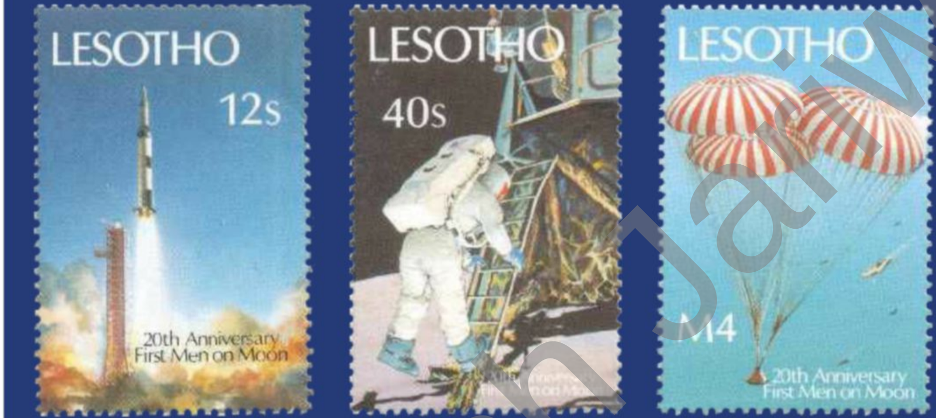

USA 44
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
40TH ANNIVERSARY STATION
Kennedy Space Center FL 32899
July 20, 2009



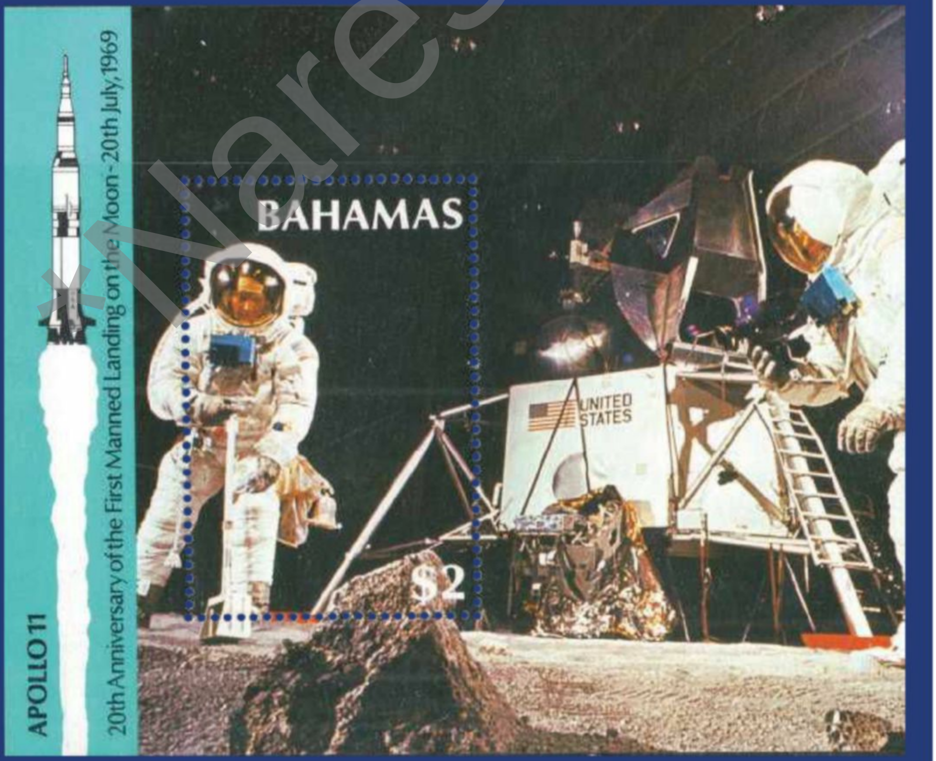

XX ROCZNICA WYPRAWY NA KSIĘŻYC
POLSKA
100 zł
Z. STASIK
PWPW 89.

ABOVE: Poland 1989 100z, depicting an astronaut walking in front of the lunar module

LEFT: USA 1989 $2.40, designed by the son of the designer of the famous 1969 10c, illustrating the planting of the US flag



ABOVE: Lesotho 1989 12s, 40s and 4m, three of a set of eight telling the full story of the mission


APOLLO 11
20th Anniversary of the First Manned Landing on the Moon - 20th July, 1969
BAHAMAS
$2
UNITED STATES

ABOVE: Bahamas 1989 $2, showing the astronauts Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong at work not on the Moon but during training at the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston, Texas

showed the astronauts in training at the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston, Texas, Aldrin practising extracting samples from the lunar surface and Armstrong practising photography. Look carefully, and you see that the stars in the sky are electric lights in the ceiling!

Each of these 12 countries also released counter sheet stamps noting other Apollo flights.

There were a further 40 sets from other states, including more than a dozen Commonwealth countries unshackled by the omnibus format. The majority of these issues were produced by agents such as the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation, and the profit motive shone through, with Micronesia, for example, releasing as many as nine stamps, and Lesotho eight plus a miniature sheet.

The advantage of a long set, however, is that it allows the designer to develop a storyline, and Lesotho's was well crafted, with successive values illustrating launching from Earth, preparing to land, stepping off the ladder, planting the flag, carrying out experiments, taking off, orbiting the Moon and descending back to Earth on parachutes.

Taking the 'less is more' approach was Poland, with a single stamp depicting an astronaut in front of the lunar module.

25th anniversary

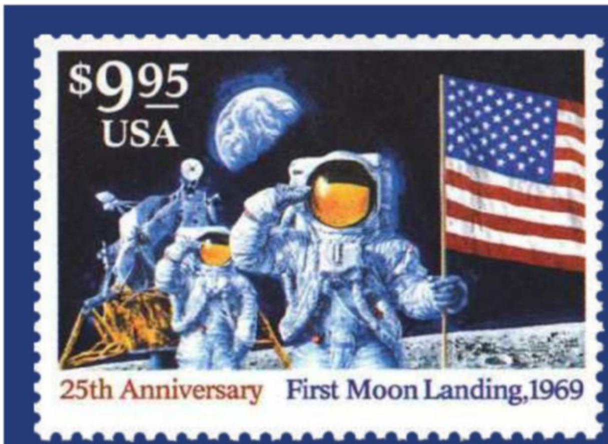
For the 25th anniversary in 1994, the US commemorative issue once again had a very patriotic feel.

Designed by the Calle father-and-son team, it comprised a 29c low value showing an astronaut saluting the American flag, and a $9.95 high-value which was an expanded version of the same design, showing two saluting astronauts with the lunar module in the background.

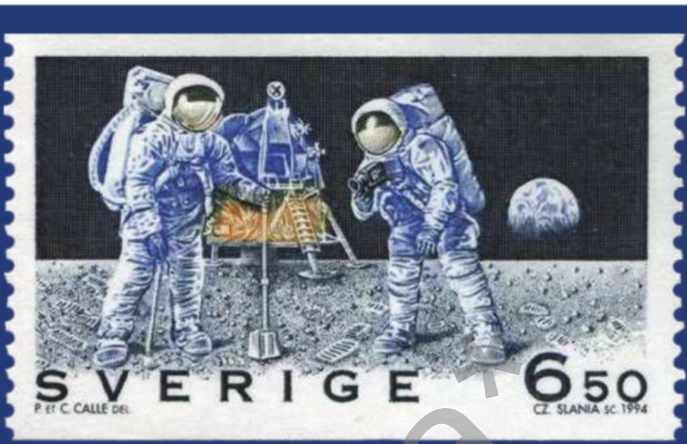
Around the world, this anniversary was celebrated with even more stamps than the 20th, and again featured an omnibus issue, by 12 countries.

Most of the participating countries offered two six-stamp miniature sheets and an additional sheet bearing one high-value stamp. All were identifiable as part of the same omnibus by the common square logo featuring the number '25', the inscription 'Apollo XI' and an image based on

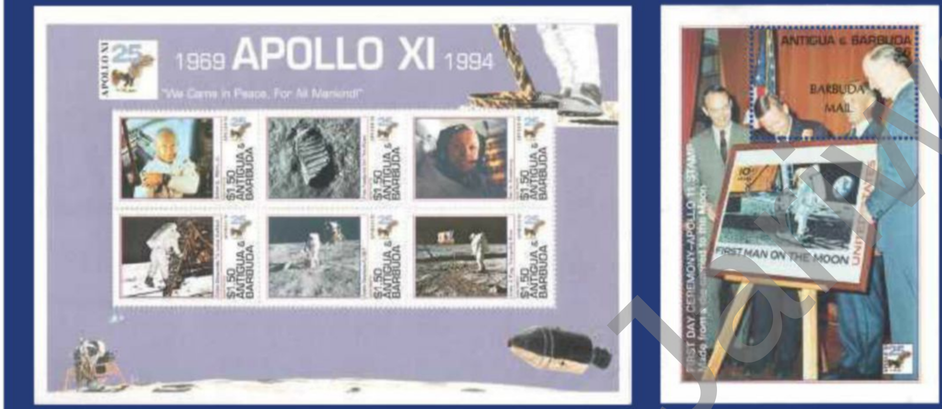
▷


$9.95
USA
25th Anniversary First Moon Landing, 1969

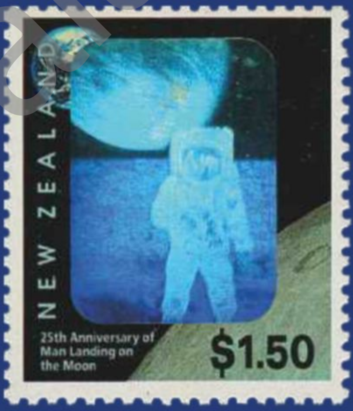
ABOVE: USA 1994 $9.95, designed together by Paul and Chris Calle


SVERIGE
6.50
P. ET C. CALLE DEL.
CZ. SLANIA SC. 1994

ABOVE: Sweden 1994 6.50k, engraved by Czeslaw Slania after a painting by the Calle team


1969 APOLLO XI 1994
"We Came in Peace, For All Mankind"
$1.50 ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
BARBUDA MAIL
FIRST MAN ON THE MOON

ABOVE: Antigua & Barbuda 1994 low-value miniature sheet (left), with the omnibus logo and six photographic images of the astronauts at work during the mission, and high-value miniature sheet (right), based on a photograph of the astronauts at the 1969 United States stamp launch


NEW ZEALAND
25th Anniversary of Man Landing on the Moon
$1.50

ABOVE: New Zealand 1994 $1.50, featuring a hologrammatic image of an astronaut walking on the Moon

NASA's official mission patch: a bald eagle with an olive branch.

Not all of these issues focused exclusively on *Apollo 11*, but one which did was that of Antigua & Barbuda. The low-values had various photographic images of the astronauts at work during the mission, while the high-value miniature sheet was unusual in showing them taking part in the the US Postal Service stamp launch seven weeks later.

Of the issues from more than 30 other countries, those from Sweden and New Zealand stand out. The former features an elegant engraving by Czeslaw Slania, after another painting by Paul and Chris Calle, while the latter incorporates a hologrammatic image of an astronaut walking on the Moon.

30th anniversary

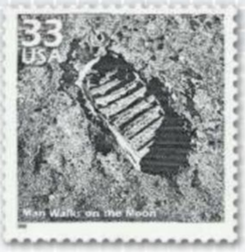
The 30th anniversary in 1999 brought the largest and most unusual omnibus issue to date, with 14 territories involved.

Each issued a set of four stamps illustrating aspects of the mission, with se-tenant labels reproducing the official mission patch.

Each also had a miniature sheet featuring a striking circular stamp illustrating an Earthrise as seen from the Moon. At first glance each design appears identical (except for country name and value), but when you look closely you realise that on each sheet the Earth is rotated so that the issuing country is in view; the Apollo spacecraft in the border is in a different position too.

Of the two dozen other commemoratives of 1999, the most unconventional was from the

MILLENNIUM ISSUES

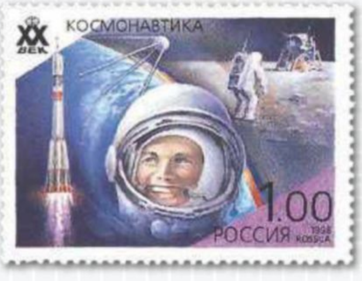

33
USA
Man Walks on the Moon

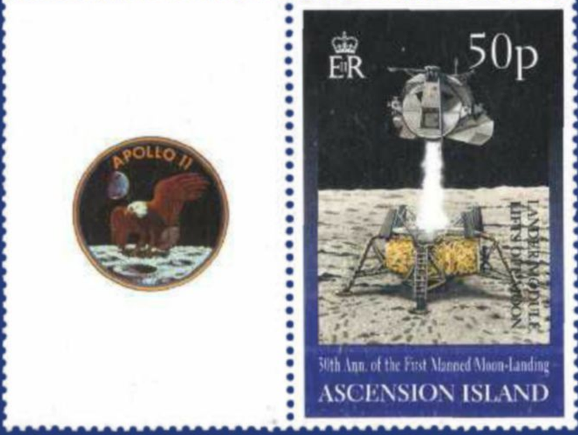
There was no dedicated US stamp issue for the 30th anniversary of *Apollo 11* in 1999, but the first Moon landing was featured on a stamp in that year, as part the 1998-2000 Celebrate the Century series of souvenir sheets.

The sheet covering The 1960s used the iconic photograph of a footprint on the lunar surface, while the sheet border showed Buzz Aldrin setting up seismic equipment.

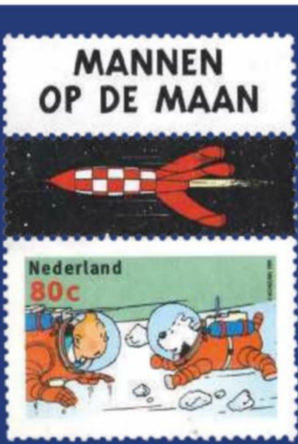
Apollo 11's achievements were also celebrated by various other countries' stamps marking the end of the millennium in the 1998-2001 period, including France, Ireland, Israel, Moldova, Romania, Russia and Uruguay.

Many of these were single stamps based on a photograph of Aldrin on the Moon. Russia's design indulged in some one-upmanship by showing *Sputnik* and Yuri Gagarin as well as *Apollo 11*.

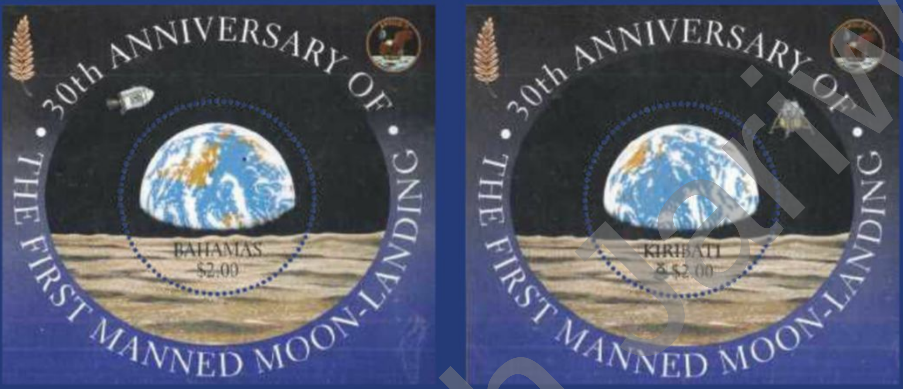

XX ВЕК
КОСМОНАВТИКА
1.00
РОССИЯ
1998
ROSSIJA


APOLLO 11
E R
50p
LANDER MODULE LIFT-OFF FROM MOON
30th Ann. of the First Manned Moon-Landing
ASCENSION ISLAND

ABOVE: Ascension 1999 50p, with an image of lift-off from the Moon and a label illustrating the Apollo 11 patch


MANNEN
OP DE MAAN
Nederland
80c

ABOVE: Netherlands 1999 80c, noting the 30th anniversary of Apollo 11 and the 70th anniversary of Tintin


30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST MANNED MOON-LANDING
BAHAMAS
$2.00
30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST MANNED MOON-LANDING
KIRIBATI
$2.00

ABOVE: Bahamas and Kiribati 1999 $2 miniature sheets, showing subtle differences in design within the omnibus issue

Naresh Pariwala

Netherlands. Doubling as a 70th anniversary celebration for the Tintin cartoon strip by Hergé, it showed Tintin and his dog Snowy wearing spacesuits, in a scene from *Explorers On The Moon*, and came with se-tenant labels.

40th anniversary

Forty years on from *Apollo 11*, in 2009, enthusiasm for celebrating the event was still strong with around 40 countries joining in. There was no omnibus issue, but a handful of interesting designs striving for an original angle.

Among the most attractive were by Alec Bartos (who had not been born in 1969) for Romania. He produced two handsome circular designs, one (in a miniature sheet) of an astronaut's footprint superimposed on a view of the entire Moon, and the other (in a square perforated label) a montage of astronaut, spacecraft and Earth.

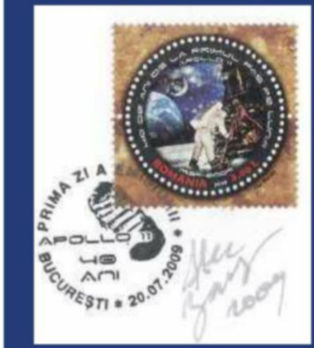
> *'The 20th, 25th and 30th anniversaries were all marked by omnibus issues comprising stamps and miniature sheets'*

A miniature sheet of six stamps from St Vincent & The Grenadines included images of *Apollo 11*'s lunar and command modules, and a rare illustration of the two docked together in orbit. It also made a connection between the pioneer aviators Wilbur and Orville Wright and the first moonwalker Neil Armstrong, all of whom came from the same state, Ohio.

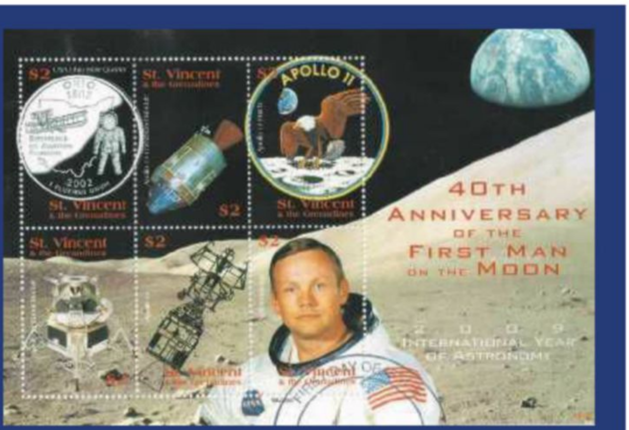
The Isle of Man produced a distinctive issue of six stamps and a miniature sheet by using paintings by Alan Bean, who walked on the Moon during the *Apollo 12* mission and later became well known as an artist. Only one of the stamps illustrated *Apollo 11*, however, and that was the 105p value showing the lunar module taking off.

50th anniversary

At least 140 stamps are being issued around the world this year to mark the 50th anniversary of Armstrong's 'giant leap for mankind', and it will be interesting to see how many can add a new dimension to what is already a very busy theme. ■


ROMANIA
PRIMA ZI A
APOLLO 11
40 ANI
BUCUREȘTI • 20.07.2009

ABOVE: Romania 2009 3.00l, a circular design in a rectangular frame with a montage of astronaut, spacecraft and Earth


$2
St. Vincent & the Grenadines
APOLLO 11
40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST MAN ON THE MOON
2009 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF ASTRONOMY

ABOVE: St Vincent 2009 miniature sheet, noting that Neil Armstrong came from the same part of Ohio as the Wright brothers

CHECKLIST

Thematic collector Peter Hoffman has compiled an exhaustive checklist of stamps on the subject of *Apollo 11*.

There are about 3,500 stamps, from 1,500 issues, listed alphabetically by country and cross-referenced by anniversary.

Hoffman is happy to send a digital copy free of charge to anyone who is interested. E-mail: peterh5292@aol.com

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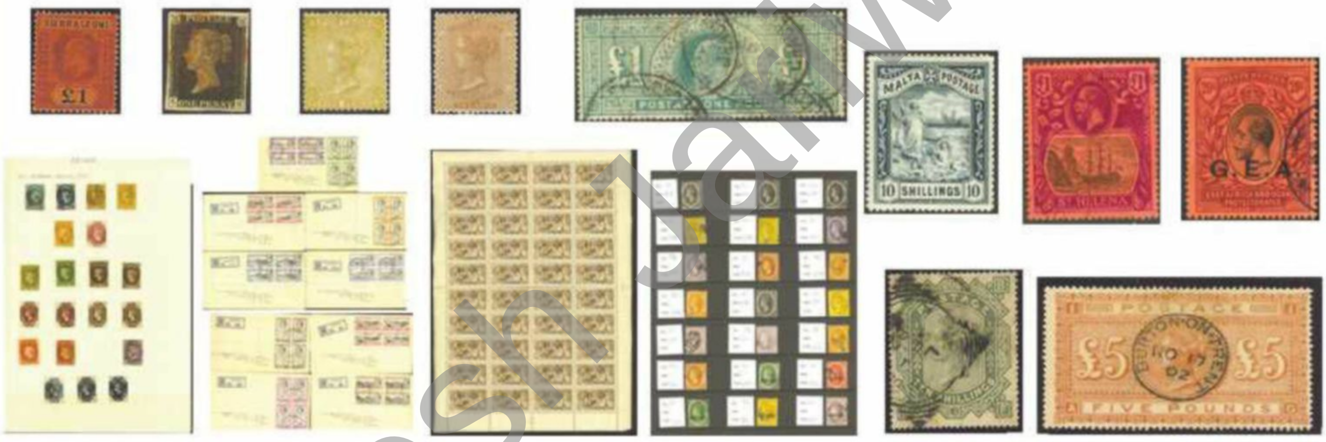

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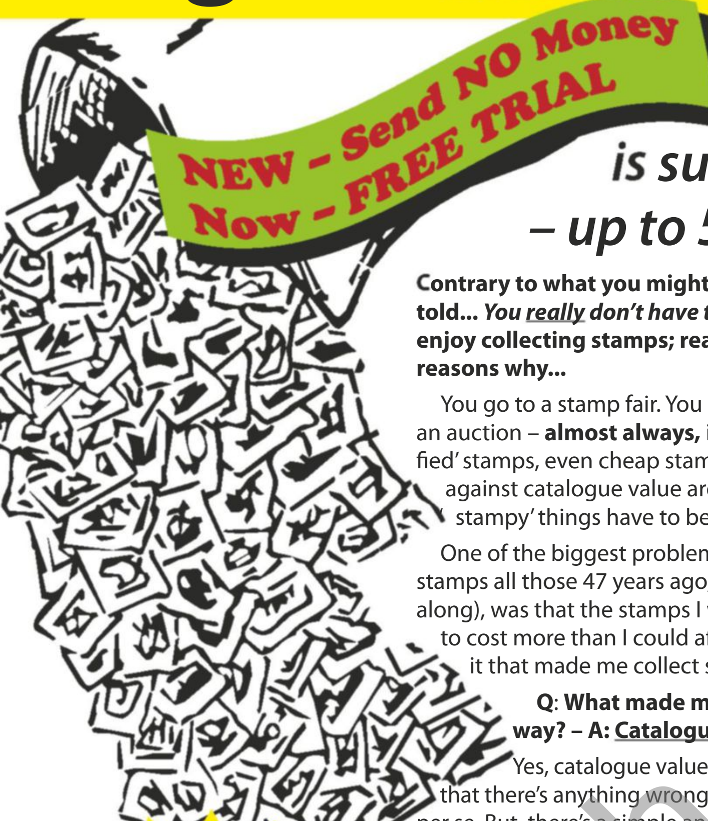

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Contrary to what you might think, or have been told... *You really don't have to spend a fortune* to enjoy collecting stamps; read on to discover the reasons why...

You go to a stamp fair. You order on line. You bid in an auction – **almost always,** if you're buying 'identified' stamps, even cheap stamps, they're priced against catalogue value aren't they? Why do stampy' things have to be done this way?

One of the biggest problems when I collected stamps all those 47 years ago, (before girls came along), was that the stamps I wanted always seemed to cost more than I could afford! So… just what is it that made me collect stamps this way ?

Q: What made me collect stamps this way? – A: Catalogue Values !

Yes, catalogue values… That's not to say that there's anything wrong with catalogue values per se. But, there's a simple answer, true even decades later, and even today. It was/is the philatelic industry norm. ***This is how 'philatelic' things are done***

BUT, I set out to break industry norms, creating my enormously popular off-paper world mixtures club more than 30 years ago. Some who were collectors then, have returned and are still 'Avon/Omniphil' Collectors today. Some of those collectors have 'progressed' their collections, so that they now bid in my 'No Hidden Extras' Universal Philatelic Auctions – also known as **'The Collector's Secret Weapon'**

Hindsight is a wonderful thing isn't it ?, but…

With the benefit of hindsight I suppose the problem was that I hadn't set my collecting boundaries to my budget, but it's so easy to say that now. But why does everything you collect have to be related to catalogue value ?

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Andrew

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Second generation

Converting from monumental achitecture to postage stamps is no easy career progression for an engraver, but René Quillivic managed it with panache

Report by Adrian Keppel

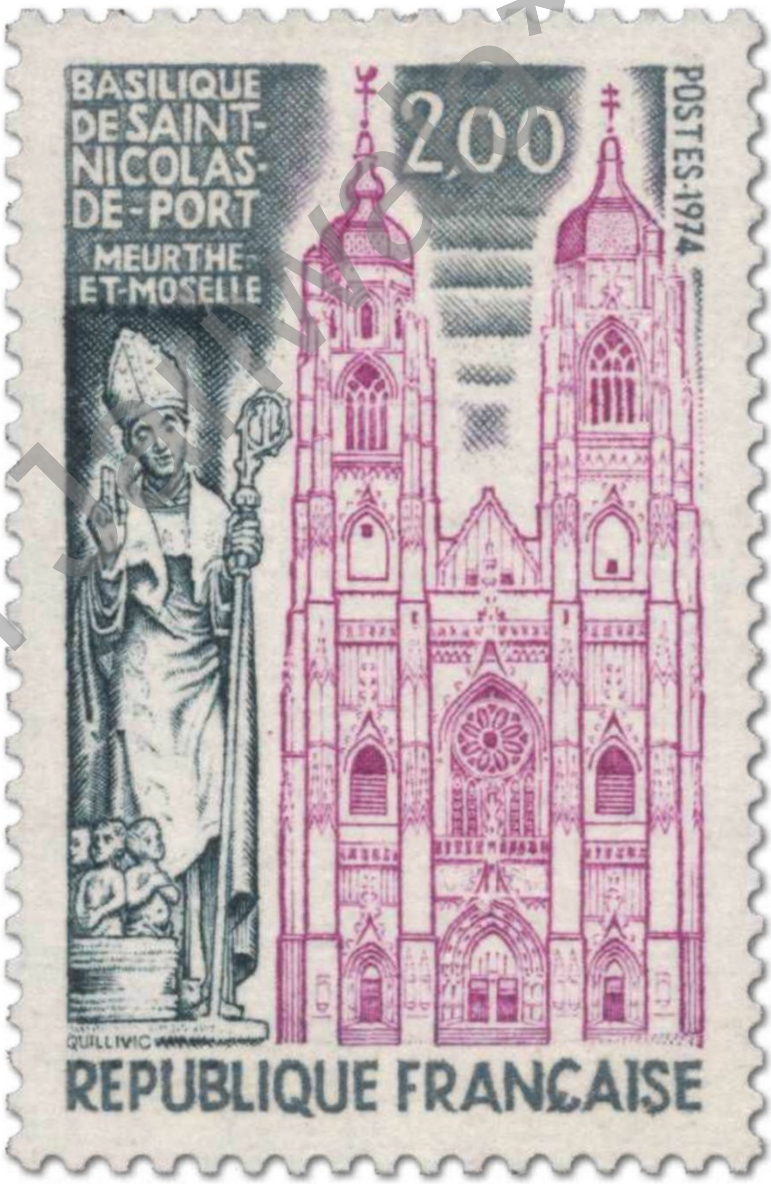
René Quillivic had quite a reputation to live up to, as the son of a famous artist.

His father, also called René, was a sculptor of public monuments in his native Brittany, an official painter to the French Navy and a potter at the Henriot pottery in Quimper. He was very influential in the Breton cultural renaissance of the early 20th century.

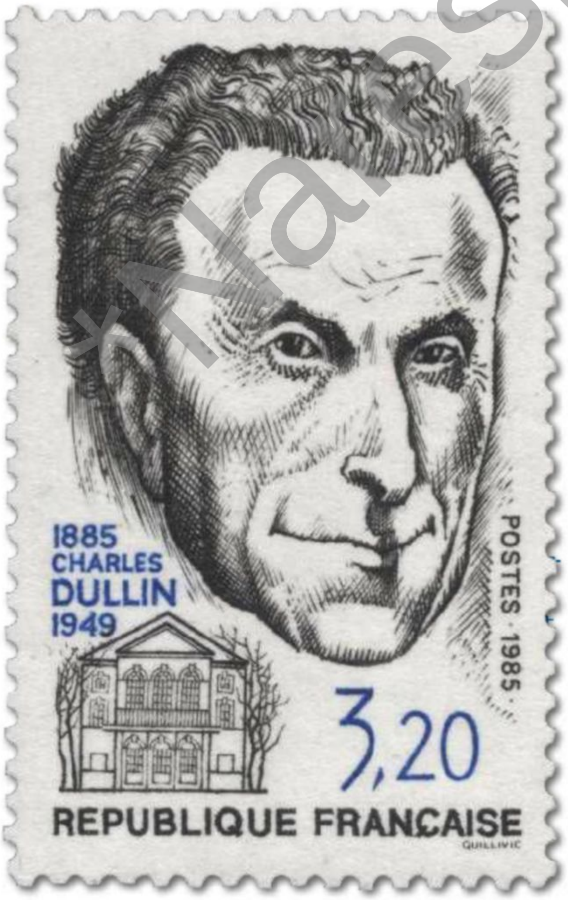
It is no wonder that René junior (1925-2016) was inspired to pursue an artistic career, but he took a rather different path. Having made his first engraving when he was just 12 years old, he went on to become reputed stamp artist.

At the Academy of Fine Arts in Paris, Quillivic trained in the workshop of the well-known stamp engraver Robert Cami. As he later recalled, he learned about precise and rigorous composition, but equally about poetic licence.

In 1950, he won the coveted Prix de Rome scholarship, but instead of going to Italy he took the advice of another famous stamp engraver, Albert Decaris, and continued his education in Spain, at the Casa de Velazquez, the French art school in Madrid. Decaris thought Rome would be too classical an influence on Quillivic.



RIGHT: René Quillivic's first stamp for France was a fine depiction of the Basilica of St Nicolas de Port for the 1974 Tourist Publicity issue

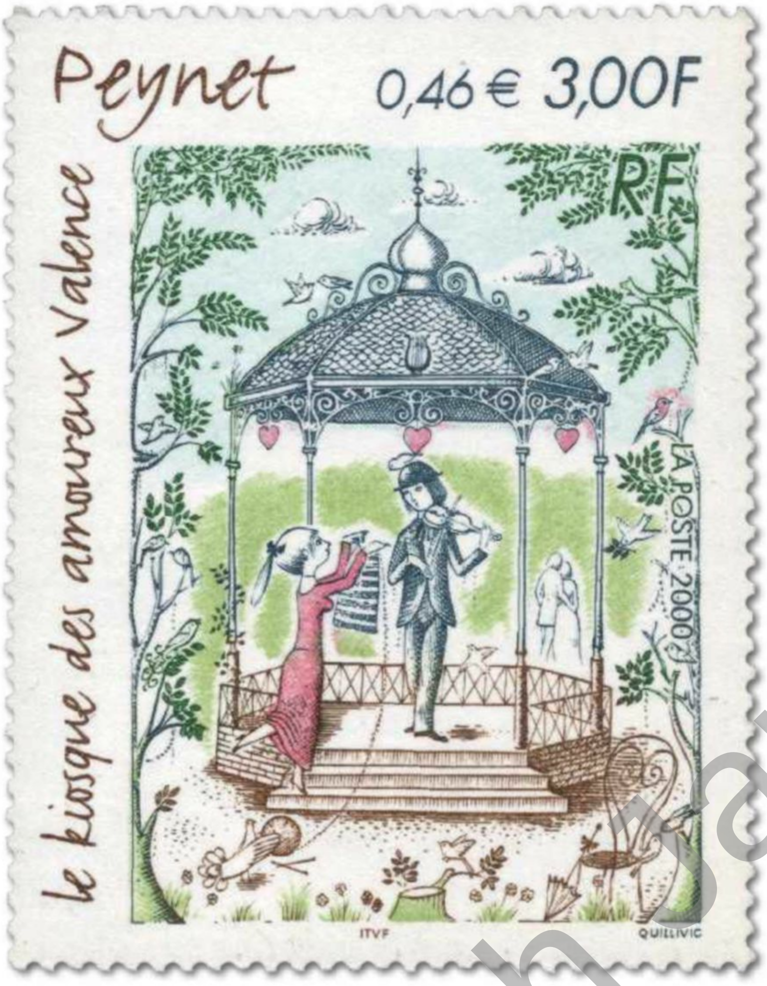


BELOW: A portrait of the actor Charles Dullin, celebrating the centenary of his birth in 1985

By the mid-1950s, back in France, Quillivic was making a career in architectural engraving. He loved working on a grand scale, in a diversity of materials from marble to concrete, and felt that the art of engraving was perfectly suited for enriching monumental buildings.

When commissions in the field of architecture declined due to the economic crisis of the late 1960s, he was obliged to concentrate on smaller-scale works. However, his

Naresh_JaiWin



LEFT: *Le Kiosque des Amoureu, Valence*, an illustration by the cartoonist Raymond Peynet, expertly translated into a stamp engraving in 2000

work as an illustrator and a medal engraver continued to enhance his reputation.

Having collected stamps as a child, and been taught by several illustrious stamp designers, it was an obvious step for Quillivic to contact the French postal authorities in 1969.

Finding small-scale engravings still rather daunting, he initially hoped to be commissioned as a designer of stamps, rather than an engraver. But within a month he was asked to engrave an essay, and it led to him being taken on primarily as an engraver.

His first issued stamp was a 1970 issue of Monaco, illustrating the Universal Postal Union's new headquarters in Berne, Switzerland. It opened the door to many commissions for French overseas territories, such as Gabon, Ivory Coast and New Caledonia.

His breakthrough into French stamps duly followed in 1974, with a design in the Tourist Publicity series depicting the Basilica of St Nicolas de Port.

In a career spanning more than 35 years, he would go on to engrave around 250 stamps for France and its territories, and his workload didn't begin to tail off until the early years of the 21st century.

Being used to working on a grander scale, Quillivic felt the restraints of a tiny format maybe more than other engravers. He also struggled to stamp his own personality on engravings made to other artists' designs.

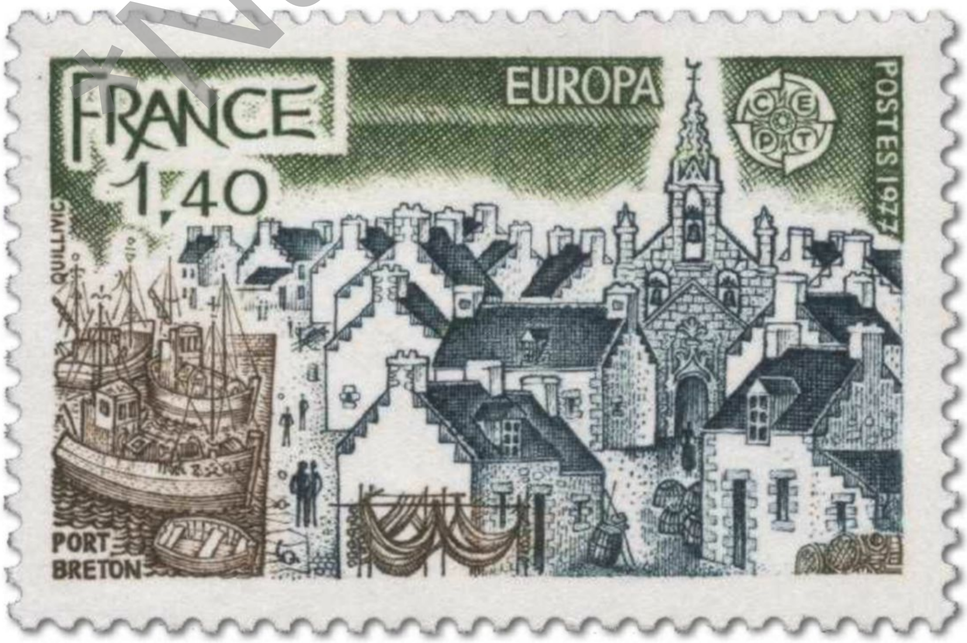
> *'Quillivic engraved around 250 stamps for France and its territories, in a career spanning more than 35 years'*

His solution was twofold. Firstly, he insisted on engraving only his own designs. Secondly, he fell back on what Cami had taught him about precision and rigour.

He was especially fond of the stamps which honoured other artists, such as the French actor Charles Dullin, who was portrayed in 1985, and the cartoonist Raymond Peynet, whose illustration *Le Kiosque des Amoureux, Valence* was successfully conveyed on an engraved stamp in 2000. The latter won a Cérès de la Philatélie award.

Another stamp he was proud of was the 1995 design marking the bicentenary of the Institut de France, the society which is a national guardian of art, literature and science. Quillivic himself had chaired one of its academies.

Of all his French stamps, however, perhaps the two Europa designs of 1977 stand out. The 1f design showed a typical village in Provence, and the 1f 40c a typical port in Brittany, harking back to the Breton roots of his father and allowing the Quillivic story to come full circle. ■



BELOW: The 1f 40c design in the 1977 Europa set gave Quillivic the chance to return to his roots by depicting a Breton port

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SAM1 POLAND Small general collection, includes; Nazi Occupation Concentration Camp Issue inscribed 'Judenpost' for Lodz Ghetto (Litzmanstadt) 10pt Green (unused). We cannot guarantee this item but remainder of the collection all seem OK. Cheap price...........Price £8.75

Z33EN UNORTHADOX STAMPS One of the most unusual collections we have ever seen assembled, with everything except normal stamps. Including triangular stamps, self-adhesive 'free form', map shaped stamps, gold foil round (circular) stamps, diamond shapes, '3 dimensional' and others. 100+ different mint and used unorthodox stamps. .... Price £11.50

SW86 SWITZERLAND A great starter collection to build upon of fine used Swiss mainly commemorative stamps. 100 + All different............................ Price £7

W.355 WORLDWIDE COLLECTION OF OVER 100 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES Someone has compiled an unusual collection with representative stamps from over 100 different countries with mint and used stamps and miniature sheets. Comprising of hundreds of stamps from over 100 different countries. .... Price £10

CAN.815 CANADA An impressive collection of Canadian stamps. Dating back to Queen Victoria and following through to King George V and King George VI, but mostly more Queen Elizabeth II issues. Comprises over 400 different stamps....................... .Price £18.75

SYR9 WAR IN SYRIA A rare cover for the war in Syria. The illustrated cover depicts Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and U.S.A Secretary of State John Kerry, issued to commemorate the Syrian Cease Fire announced by the U.S.A and Russia on 27/2/16. The cover bears a UK Machin stamp with official Royal Mail illustrated postmark dated 27/2/16 in combination with Syrian and United Nations stamps ted to the cover with red cachet inscribed "U.N. Security Council resolution no. 2254, 18/1215". A fragile cessation of hostilities came into force in Syria, 97 fighting groups as well as the Syrian government and Russian Air Force signed up to a ceasefire. Only 40 of this rare cover exist.. Price £35

CAIRN21 SUMMER ISLANDS A scarce item of Scottish postal history. The official Royal Mail PHQ card for the 400th Anniversary of the Landing of Saint Columba bears Summer Isles map stamp postmarked "Summer Isles", 9/6/1997, on reverse. Front bears a Cairn IAR Island St. Columba stamp tied with an official green St. Columba PMK. Possibly the scarcest Royal Mail PHQ .... Price £15

LEB.8 LEBANON Group of proof essay designs printed on thin card. Designs vary and include some with missing red colour (Red Cross) and some with blank "value" denomination tablet. Rarely offered for sale. Six different essays...................................... Price £18

M332 Morocco An interesting & unusual group of Morocco stamps, includes French Morocco, Spanish Morocco, British P.O's in Morocco. Dating back to circa. 1940's including overprinted stamps. ………………………………………… ……Price £9.90

DR8 THE RED BARON First World War historic commemorative cover for the centenary of the death of Manfred Von Richthoven – German Flying Ace. Illustrated with iconic sepia picture of the "Red Baron" in uniform with Iron Cross. The cover bears Royal Mail WWI "Sopwith Camel" and early bi-plane tied to the cover with official Royal Air Force illustrated postmark 21/4/2018. Combined with German WWI stamp tied to the cover with purple German cross cachet. A rare aviation cover of which only 40 are known to exist........................ Price £19

SJ92 GREAT BRITAIN 1961 POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK ERROR ON SG624. (3d value). A most impressive and amusing error due to a shift of the Orange colour, the owl in the top right-hand corner of the stamp has turned and is looking sideways. Unusual to find such an impressive error turn up over 44 years after it was issued. We can offer the shifty-eye owl error, together with normal stamp for comparison................... Price £8

SH73 SHETLAND ISLANDS Impressive cover for "Up-Helly-AA" The Viking Fire festival at Lerwick, when a Viking long boat is set on fire. The cover bears the Shetland Island local stamps depicting Vikings and a blazing Viking ship tied to the cover with Hildasay – Shetland Island cachet in blue, in combination with Royal Mail Stamp postmarked with the Celtic "Up-Helly-AA" Lerwick postmark.................... Price £13.25

LUS3 RMS LUSITANIA Special commemorative cover for the centenary of the sinking of the Lusitania. Only 100 covers in existence. Superbly illustrated for the tragic event that brought America into World War I. The cover bears a Royal Mail Navy Ensign stamp with the 7th May 2015 Lusitania illustrated Royal Mail Liverpool postmark................................ Price £8.75

PRC10 CHINA A glorious collection of stamps of China. Mostly People's Republic of China, with an interesting group of Hong Kong stamps, also China stamp booklets, mint complete sheet noted some odd Macau, several China miniature sheets and China First Day Covers. Noted better overprinted stamps, East China 1949 Mao Tse Tung & General Zhu. A highly recommended lot with hundreds of China stamps not counting complete China stamp booklets, miniature sheets and FDCs.. Price £37

ATL5 WAR IN THE FALKLANDS Elusive South Atlantic Task Force Cover. Falklands Victory Parade Cover, dated 12th Nov. 1982 with Falkland Islands Map and British Union Jack Flag, Plymouth postmark. The cover was re-posted in 2012 (thirty years later) and re-postmarked with official Royal Mail "Falklands War British Task Force Anniv. Portsmouth PMK." Seldom available as only a handful of this elusive cover exist................. Price £10

BE822 THE BEATLES A fantastic collection of Beatles stamps. "The Fab Four" John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Star. Contains various Beatles stamps including mint and used and miniature sheets with catalogued and scarcer uncatalogued issues. Scarce Beatles FDCs included, with Royal Mail Beatles official postmarks. The important collection of Beatles stamps FDCs and miniature sheets from different countries including GB Royal Mail issue. …………………………………………….....Price £16

ZZZ8 "SPY MAIL" United States of America "V-Mail" cover for use by U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. "V-Mail" was used in conjunction with early W.W.II use of micro-film to send messages. This scarce cover is in original mint condition .... Price £19

MA92 GREAT BRITAIN RARE IMPERFORATE MACHIN STAMPS ½p imperforate pair printed on thin paper, these were printed octagonal by special authority of the Post Office at Somerset House. Sought after and missing from most Machin stamp collections.........................Price £28

TUC.97 TONY BLAIR POLITICAL COVER The historic Trade Union Congress cover for the 100th anniv. of the first T.U.C of 1868. Superbly illustrated it bears a G.P.O. T.U.C. stamp tied to the cover with a pictorial G.P.O. Manchester T.U.C. PMK dated 29/5/1968. Remarkably it was re-posted to commemorate the visit of Tony Blair, the Prime Minister to the T.U.C. Conference in Brighton, bearing official Royal Mail BTN, PMK, dated 9/9/1997 ....Price £18

KGVI23 KENYA, UGANDA & TANGANYIKA King George VI impressive stamp error. The 1c. Black & Red Brown Flamingo definitive stamp with impressive colour shift of the black colour (King George VI head) shifted to the left revealing a white area on the right of the oval frames interior superb unm. Mint King George VI error............... .Price £4.75

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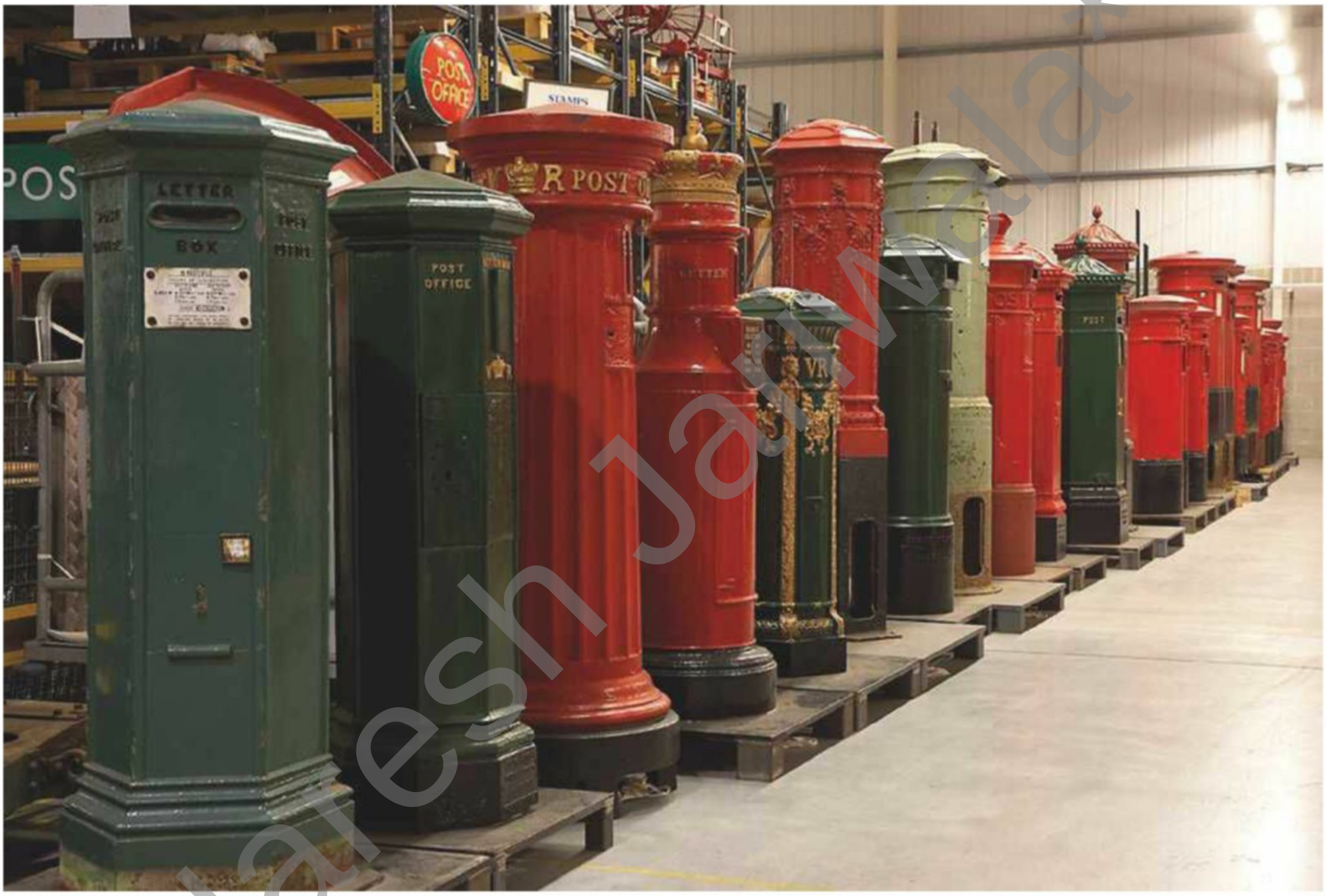
Slot to be desired

Despite its iconic status, the great British postbox can be ornamental as well as functional, and can be abused as well as respected. And it isn't always red

■ **Report by John Wright**



ABOVE: Historic postboxes of various shapes, sizes and colours, in the collection held by The Postal Museum

Like fish and chips and thatched roofs, the red pillar box is intrinsic to the imagery of British life. But it is far from homogeneous, and hasn't always been well treated. It hasn't even always been red.

Novel notion

The first British postboxes were green, and graced the streets of Jersey from 1852 and Guernsey from 1853. They were the brainchild of Anthony Trollope, better known as a novelist, who worked for the Post Office inspecting rural mail delivery in the south-west of Britain.

His idea for a cast iron 'letter-receiving pillar' may well have been based on one he had seen in Paris, where ornate postboxes already existed. It was rapidly adopted on the British mainland from 1853 onwards.

People who used to have to walk long distances to the nearest letter receiving house, such as a coaching inn, were no doubt delighted simply to be able to drop their letters through a slot in a local box for collection.

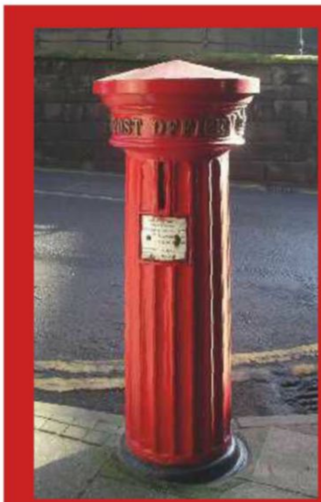
Central casting

Early pillar boxes varied in style because regional Post Office surveyors commissioned local foundries to cast them. They might be cylindical, rectangular or hexagonal, with differing ornamentation. As they evolved, they went through many design changes, for security, for aesthetics and for practicality — not least, to keep the rain out.

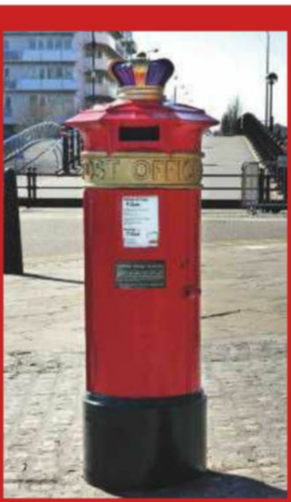
The first attempts at standardisation began in the late 1850s, and the most famous example was the Penfold box (named after its designer John Penfold), which was in production from 1866-79. Hexagonal in shape with an ornate cap, it was very distinctive and is now considered iconic, although only 300 originals were made, and today the survivors are almost outnumbered by modern replicas.

It was during the Penfold era, in 1874, that the General Post Office became convinced that bright red was much more visible from a distance than green and bronze, and began the gradual process of repainting its postboxes.

Red remains the default colour to

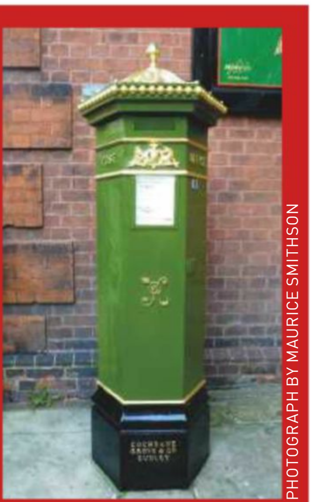


ABOVE: 1856 pillar box in Warwick



ABOVE: 1863 pillar box in Liverpool

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN WARD



ABOVE: 1866 Penfold box in Rochester

PHOTOGRAPH BY MAURICE SMITHSON

this day, although when boxes were introduced specifically for airmail, in the 1930s, they adopted a distinctive blue hue.

Secondary styles

Almost from the start, pillar boxes were supplemented by wall boxes, recessed into a wall. First installed in 1857 in Shrewsbury and Market Drayton, their main advantage was that they could be used in rural areas where there was no pavement or street lighting.

These, too, underwent frequent development to solve issues such as water ingress and drainage, and perfect door size and installation height. An interesting type was the Ludlow wall box (named after the Birmingham manufacturer James Ludlow), made from sheet metal and wood for use at sub-post offices from 1885.

Lamp boxes were introduced in 1896, designed to be fixed halfway up lamp posts or poles in rural areas with smaller amounts of post to collect. They are sometimes said to resemble koalas clinging to trees.

All in all, there are so many design variations among the UK's estimated 100,000 postboxes that spotting rarities and oddities can be an engrossing hobby, enjoyed by members of the Letter Box Study Group.

Cypher science

Most postboxes have carried the royal cypher: the initials of the monarch in whose reign they were made, with variations including coats of arms and crowns.

The earliest were marked 'VR' (Victoria Regina) for Queen Victoria, with the odd anomaly that the cypher was omitted from the cylindrical pillar boxes made between 1879-87, apparently as an oversight, which resulted in them being dubbed 'anonymous' boxes.

Later came 'EVIIR' for King Edward VII, 'GR' for King George V, 'EVIIIR' for King Edward VIII, and 'GVIR' for King George VI. Examples of all of these are still in use, although fewer than 300 postboxes were cast with the Edward VIII cypher because he reigned for only 10 months in 1936, and only around 100 survive.

> *'The innocent postbox has faced one attack after another during its illustrious history, sometimes by accident and sometimes by design'*

Queen Elizabeth II's cypher is 'EIIR' in England and Wales, but not in Scotland, where it is considered inaccurate and unwelcome by some Scots, on the basis that Elizabeth I never ruled over Scotland.

Complaints were lodged when a pillar box was installed in the Inch area of Edinburgh in 1952, in the early days of the reign. A police presence ensured the unveiling ceremony went peacefully, but within 36 hours the box had been defaced with tar, and a week later it was blown up by a bomb.

'What at first appeared as a perfectly appropriate and harmless recognition of the new head of state quickly descended into a cause of national outrage, leading to wide-scale media coverage, debates in the House of Commons and intense police surveillance,' according to *Edinburgh In The 1950s* by Jack Gillon, David McLean and Fraser Parkinson.

Of course, Scotland didn't recognise all of the kings named Edward either, but Elizabeth I perhaps attracted special resentment as the monarch who ordered the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots.

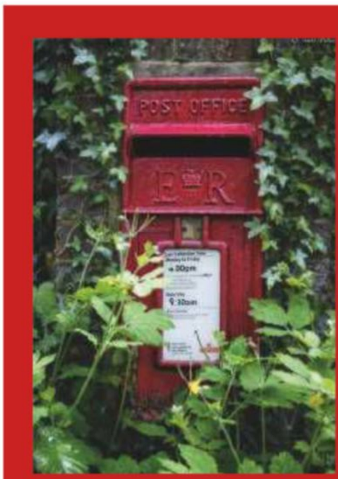
The protesters got their way, and subsequent postboxes have carried the Crown of Scotland rather than the royal cypher.

Aggressive abuse

In fact, the innocent postbox has faced one attack after another during its illustrious history, sometimes by accident and sometimes by design.

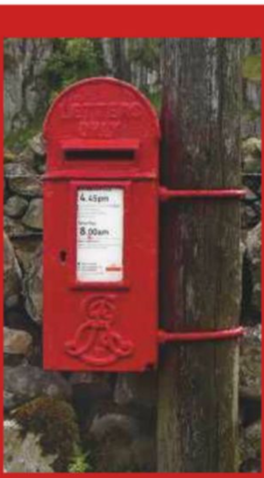
The most famous concerted

▷



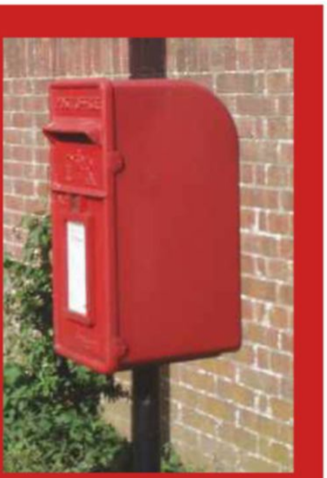
ABOVE: Wall box embedded in a brick wall in Midhurst, West Sussex

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID J DALLEY

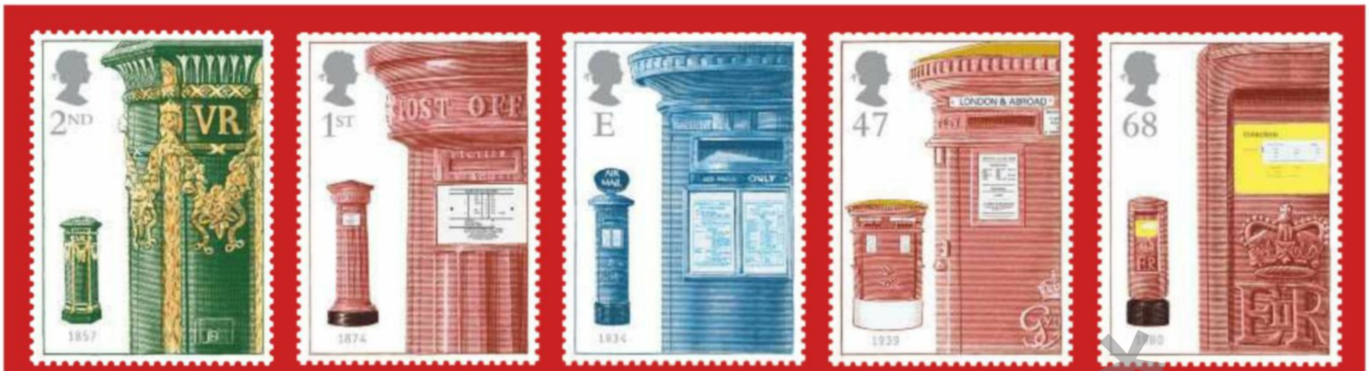


ABOVE: Lamp box attached to a post in Holwick, County Durham

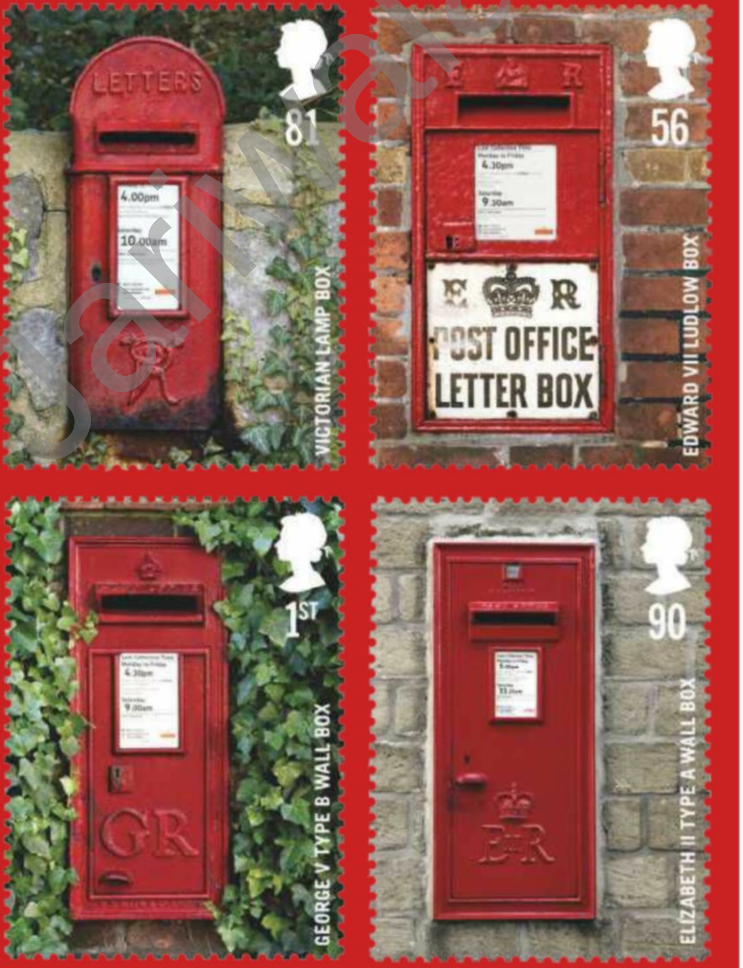
PHOTOGRAPH BY LYNN PATRICK



ABOVE: Lamp box supported by its own post in Havant, Hampshire



ABOVE: Royal Mail's 2002 stamp issue marking the 150th anniversary of the pillar box, illustrating boxes of 1857, 1874, 1934, 1939 and 1980



ABOVE: Royal Mail's 2009 Postboxes set, showing an 1896 lamp box in Hythe, a 1901 Ludlow box in Bodiam, a 1933 wall box in Cookham Rise, and a 1962 wall box in Slaithwaite

onslaught came from the Suffragettes, the most aggressive campaigners for women's right to vote, in the years before World War I. Amongst other forms of protest, they liked to pour acid into postboxes to corrode the mail, or, worse still, pour petrol in, swiftly followed by a flame.

Not that these red icons are entirely free of abuse in more peaceful political times, as modern newspaper headlines reveal.

'Postbox blown up with fireworks,' reported the *Cambrian News* from Ceredigion in October 2016, '...sparking police investigation,' it added mischievously.

'Car ploughs through bus shelter and knocks over postbox,' headlined the Scottish broadcaster STV, recording an incident in Aberdeen in March 2016.

Postboxes also go missing regularly, and rarely turn up on eBay, so the assumption must be that they are being hoarded in private collections or sold for scrap on the black market. Another surprisingly common reason why they may be temporarily out of action, at least in the spring, is that they are being used as a nesting box by small birds.

But some of the ignominies faced by these pillars of the community are stranger still.

The *Bristol Post* reported an attempt to shove a large cream cake through the narrow slot of a pillar box in Bristol in November 2016, reckoning that it was probably a Victoria sponge.

'A 120-year-old postbox has been deemed a health and safety risk after being engulfed by a tree', revealed the BBC Wales website in 2018.

'A postbox in a Cornish seaside town could be removed over health and safety fears, because dogs keep using it as a lavatory,' wrote the *Daily Telegraph* in October 2015.

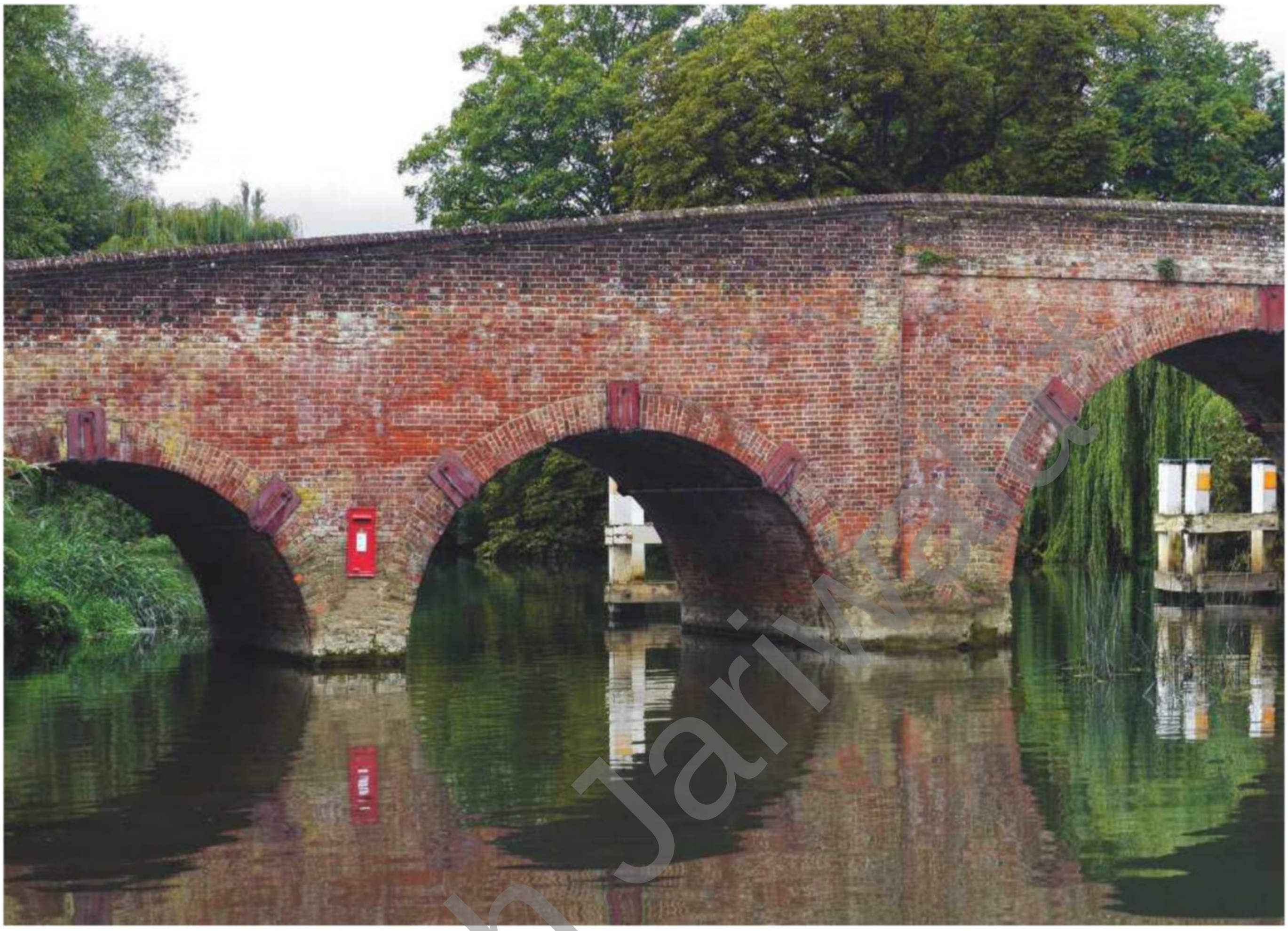
'Man who had sex with postbox found dead behind restaurant,' screamed the *Daily Mirror* in February 2015. This was probably not the kind of endorsement Trollope had envisaged.

Golden gambit

Rather more agreeably, Royal Mail has developed a penchant in recent years for decorating its postboxes to commemorate special events.

This was kick-started by the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012, when British gold medal-winners were honoured not only with stamps but by way of pillar boxes in their home towns being painted gold.

It was an idea which proved popular, and attracted plenty of positive publicity, but it also threw up a dilemma: how do you



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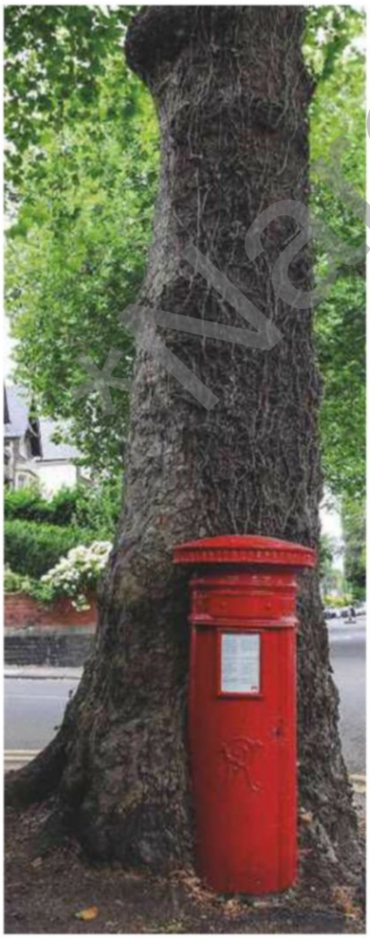
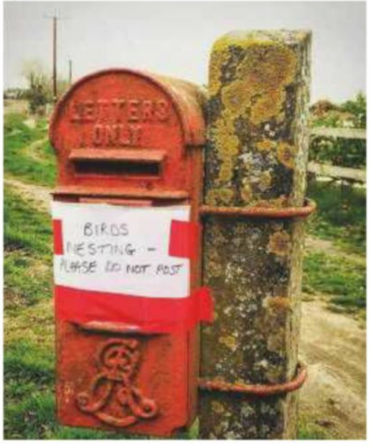


ABOVE: A fake postbox installed as a joke on the side of a bridge at Sonning-on-Thames, Berkshire (since removed)

RIGHT: Postboxes can make attractive nesting sites for small birds, which sometimes forces a temporary closure

LEFT: Victorian pillar box in Roath, Cardiff, taken out of use in 2018 because it had gradually been engulfed by a tree



define 'home town'?

Many fans of the multiple Olympic sailing champion Ben Ainslie were disappointed when Falmouth in Cornwall, where he had grown up, got the golden postbox instead of Lymington in Hampshire, where he lives.

One was so disappointed that he took matters into his own hands. Restaurateur Rob Smith was arrested and spent the night in a police cell after painting a Lymington box gold using a spray can, which Royal Mail considered vandalism.

The case became something of a *cause-célèbre*, with Smith described as a 'legend of Lymington' by none other than Ainslie himself (who became Sir Ben when he was knighted five months later). It was resolved the following year when Royal Mail withdrew their charge and formalised the botch job with a proper gold coat.

So all's well that ends well, assuming that's where it does all end. What if someone decides that a similar honour is merited in in Macclesfield, Cheshire, where the sailor was born? Or Truro, Cornwall, where he went to school? Or the services on the M3 where he once stopped for coffee on the way to a regatta?

Playful paintjobs

Of course, the law of averages would suggest that eventually every town and village in the land will have a gold medal winner coming from it, and red post boxes will be no more. Which is why Royal Mail has resisted pursuing the precedent after subsequent Olympiads.

It has not been deterred, ▷

‘Royal Mail has developed a penchant in recent years for decorating its postboxes on special occasions’

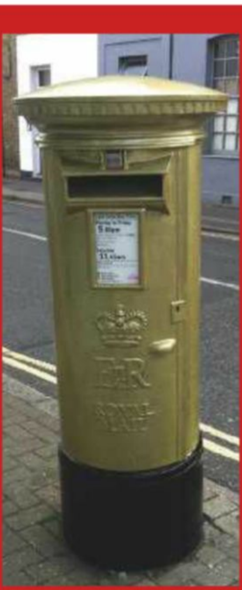
however, from decorating selected postboxes for other reasons.

In June 2015, it celebrated 50 years of special stamp issues by adding plaques to 50 pillar boxes, each illustrating a well-known commemorative stamp relating to a local landmark.

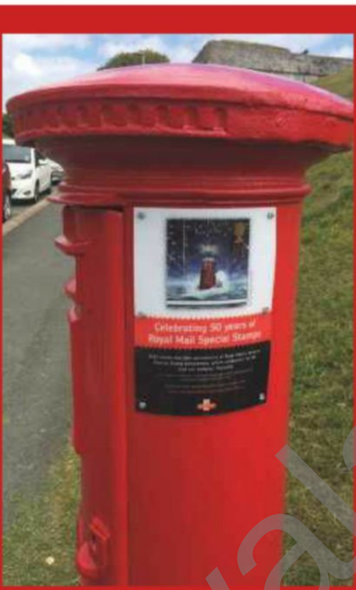
In November 2017 it repainted postboxes in the home towns of the two schoolchildren whose Christmas stamp designs were adopted following a nationwide competition.

In November 2018 it went one further, painting eight boxes in major cities with snowflake patterns and rigging them to play Christmas jingles whenever a card or letter was posted.

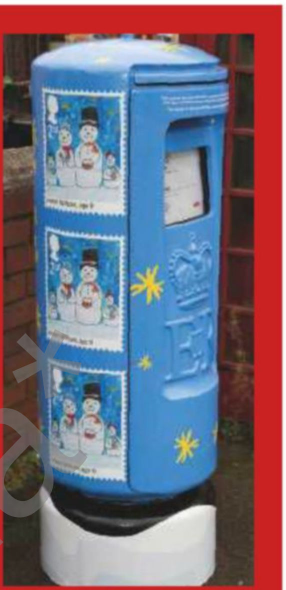
During 2019, boxes have been given special paint schemes to mark Valentine’s Day in February, World Book Day and Red Nose Day in March, and to honour the 10 towns and cities hosting matches in the Cricket World Cup, which started in May.



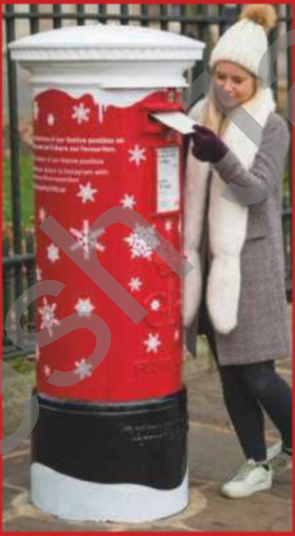
ABOVE: Pillar box in Teddington painted gold in 2012 as a tribute to Olympic gold medal winner Mo Farah



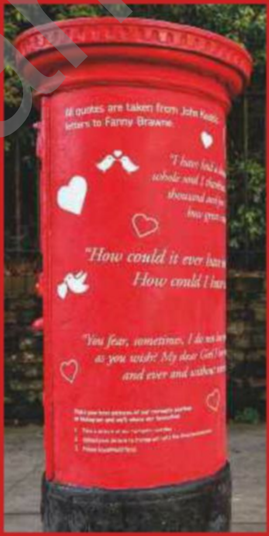
ABOVE: Pillar box in Plymouth adorned in 2015 with a plaque recalling the 1998 stamp of nearby Eddystone Lighthouse, to celebrate 50 years of special stamp issues



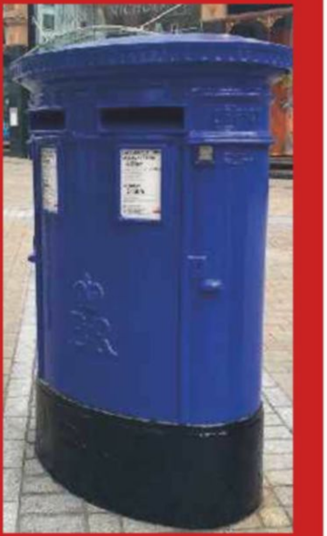
ABOVE: Pillar box in Dudley decorated in 2017 in honour of Christmas stamp designer Arwen Wilson. aged 9



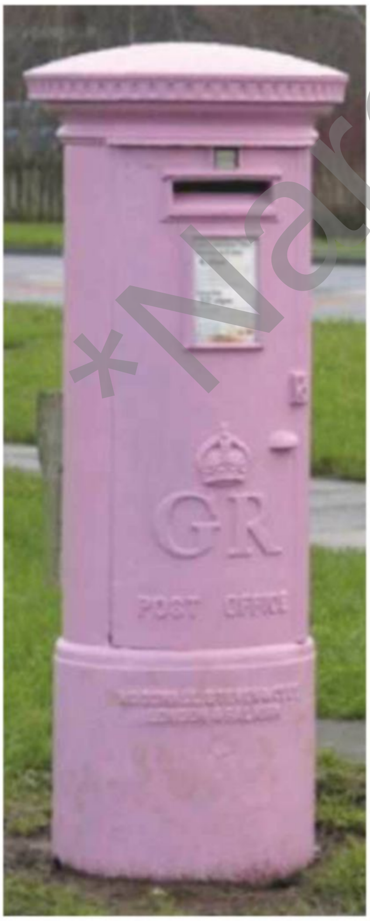
ABOVE: Pillar box decorated for Christmas in 2018, playing a jingle whenever a letter was posted


All quotes are taken from John Keats letters to Fanny Brawne

ABOVE: Pillar box in Hampstead adorned with quotes from John Keats for Valentine’s Day in 2019



ABOVE: Pillar box in Leeds painted blue in 2019 to celebrate Britain hosting the Cricket World Cup



LEFT: King George V pillar box in pink, not as a fashion statement but as an undercoat before repainting

Occasionally postboxes set tongues wagging locally when they are spotted being painted in unfetching pale pink tones. It’s a not a fashion statement, but simply a primer in readiness for a fresh red topcoat.

Television titters

Playfulness with pillar boxes is nothing new, though. As conspicuous symbols of Britishness, we have often had fun with them in the past, not least in light entertainment.

Monty Python’s Flying Circus showed the GPO trying to take over the world by opening a line of pillar boxes stretching from Ruislip to the Gobi Desert.

In *Red Dwarf*, the ‘post pods’ which delivered mail in space resembled flying pillar boxes.

Danger Mouse and his sidekick, a hamster named Penfold, used a postbox as a secret hideout.

And Mr Bean unwisely hid in one, after stealing a stamp from a woman’s letter, and had to wait for the first collection the next day to be rescued. ■

Nareshmarwala

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Stamps £1 to £1.99	65%	Sorted by value
Stamps £2.00 to £10	75%	Sorted by value
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GB Unmounted Mint Decimal Stamp Collections	55%	UNSORTED - Post 2000
GB Mounted Mint Decimal Stamp Collections	45%	UNSORTED
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First (1st) Class NVI Stamps (self-adhesive)	65%	Commemorative
First (1st) Class Christmas Stamps	60%	All Christmas Stamps
First (1st) Class NVI Stamps (lick and stick)	60%	Definitive Queen's Head
First (1st) Class NVI Stamps (self-adhesive)	75%	Definitive Queen's Head
Second (2nd) Class NVI Stamps	68%	Commemorative Stamps
Second (2nd) Class Christmas Stamps	68%	All Christmas Stamps
Second (2nd) Class NVI Stamps (lick and stick)	68%	Definitive Queen's Head
Second (2nd) Class NVI Stamps (self-adhesive)	75%	Definitive Queen's Head
First Class LARGE NVI (self-adhesive)	70%	ALL TYPES (£1.06)
First Class LARGE NVI (lick and stick)	70%	ALL TYPES (£1.06)
Second Class LARGE NVI (self-adhesive)	70%	ALL TYPES (83p)
Second Class LARGE NVI (lick and stick)	70%	ALL TYPES (83p)
1st Class Signed For Delivery Stamps	75%	All types (£1.90 and £2.26)
Special Delivery Stamps	80%	(£6.60 >100g and £7.40 >500g)
Europe & Worldwide NVI Stamps	50%	Up to 40 grams
Europe & Worldwide NVI Stamps	60%	Up to 10g, 20g, E, 60g & 100g
Presentation Packs & Year Books	52%	from 1971 to 1998
Presentation Packs & Year Books	60%	from 1999 to 2016
Presentation Packs & Year Books	68%	from 2017 to 2019
Prestige Booklets	55%	up to 1998
Prestige Booklets	60%	1999 to 2016
Prestige Booklets	65%	2017 to 2019
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*Naresh Jarwala

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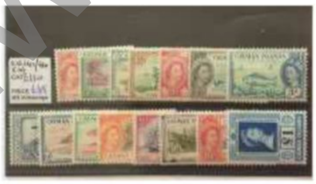

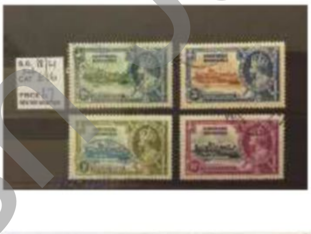

See samples above of what we send out with many more available.
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Address..

.... **Tel no** ....

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*Naresh Jaiwala

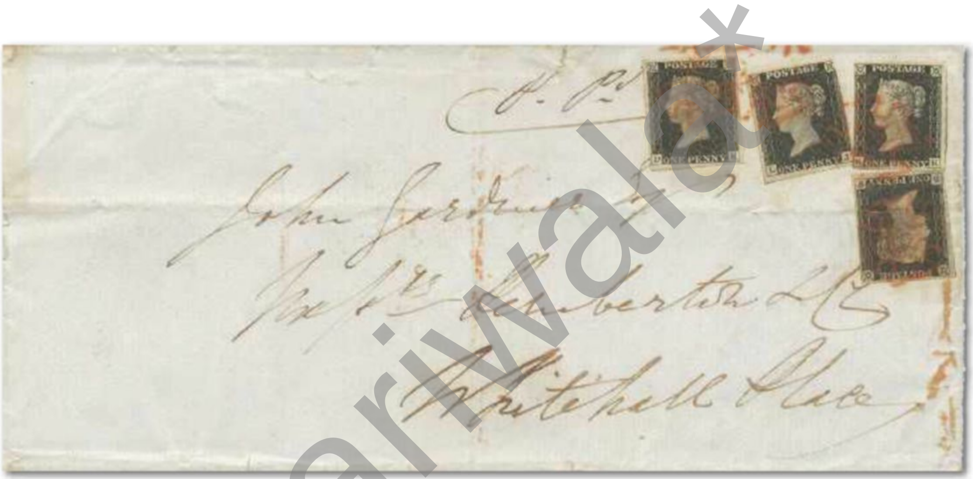
May-date multiple

The advent of the postage stamp brought new postal practices and new tariffs. The first of our new series on Penny Black covers examines an early multiple usage

Report by Norman Watson

As the world's first adhesive postage stamp, the Penny Black is something everyone would like to have in his or her collection. If you are a postal history collector, you naturally covet 'May date' covers, the very earliest examples of stamps in use.

A surprising number of covers posted between May 6 and May 31, 1840, survive. Few bear multiple examples of the new stamp, but those which do help to illustrate how the new Uniform Penny Post system worked in practice.

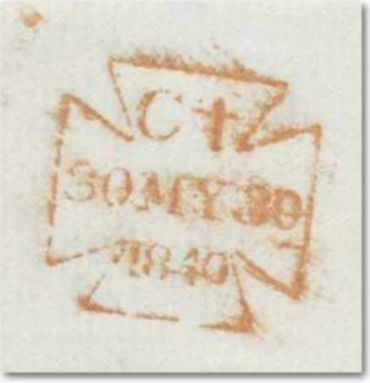

ABOVE: Penny Black cover bearing four stamps from plate 2, paying the 4d rate for letters weighing up to 2oz

This entire has four Penny Blacks, paying the 4d charge required to convey a lawyer's power-of-attorney document across London.

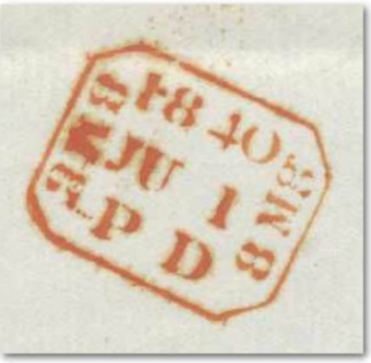
Addressed to Whitehall Place, it is endorsed 'P Pd' for 'prepaid', and the stamps are cancelled, as required, by strikes of a Maltese cross cancellation in red ink.

The reverse carries London despatch and receipt marks, also in red, for May 30 and June 1.

RIGHT: London despatch mark of May 30, 1840



RIGHT: London receipt mark of June 1, 1840



The Uniform Penny Post, which had been introduced on January 10, provided for letters to be charged at the new low rate of 1d if they weighed up to ½oz, but the rate was 2d if they weighed up to 1oz, 4d for up to 2oz, and so on.

The distance a letter was carried no longer determined postal charges. Nor did the number of sheets of paper it comprised, which would result in envelopes slowly replacing wrappers and entires.

'Letters were charged at the new low rate of 1d if they weighed up to ½oz, but 2d for up to 1oz, 4d for up to 2oz, and so on'

Also intrinsic to the postal reforms introduced by Rowland Hill was the principle of pre-payment, to phase out the traditional practice of leaving the recipient to pay. Letters could still be sent unpaid, but as a deliberate disincentive the lowest rate for these was 2d. In effect, the General Post Office was trying to guarantee itself the revenue before delivering the service.

The higgledy-piggledy placing of the stamps on this cover, with several overlapping and one inverted, was perhaps encouraged by the novelty of these postage 'labels'.

The inscription in sheet margins (which not all users would have seen, of course) included the instruction: 'Place the labels above the address and towards the right hand side of the letter.' At least this advice was heeded, albeit in chaotic fashion.

A more interesting oddity is that the four stamps probably came from the same sheet, even though the corner check letters (BF, DK, KK and LJ) reveal that they are from separate parts of it.

Introduced as a security measure, these corner letters were punched in by hand after the printing plates had struck 240 impressions of the stamp on a sheet. Minor varieties in them help to identify the plate numbers used.

These stamps are all from plate 2, which was first put to press on April 22. This was the only plate, other than plate 1, to provide stamps ready for the first day of issue, May 6. ■

ATTENTION OWNERS OF LARGE/ VALUABLE COLLECTIONS –

Are You THINKING of SELLING?

This is

HOW THE STAMP TRADE WORKS

Philatelic Expert Lets You into his *Selling Secrets* so you can benefit from a *totally different* (and New) Selling Experience

by Andrew McGavin

1 **If You want to learn** how the stamp trade works, please read on… When I was 15, I did. I wondered if there was some secret source of supply? So, I bought my 1st stamp mixture, (wholesale I thought), broke it into 50 smaller units, advertised it in Stamp Magazine 'Classifieds', and waited for the orders to roll in… I'm still waiting, 48 years later !...

Wrong Offer ✗ ***Wrong Price*** ✗ ***Wrong Place*** ✗
(naïve seller ✓ **=** ☹ ***me but I was only 15 at the time!)***

2 **Three years later,** attending my first public stamp auctions I wondered how some bidders seemed to buy everything, paying the highest price? It didn't occur to me that they were probably Auction Bidding Agents, paid by absent (dealer) bidders to represent them. I wondered why two collectors sitting side by side muttered to each other **"he's a dealer"** as if that justified him paying the highest price…

About The Author ➳ Andrew found his Father's stamps at the age of 10. A year later at Senior School he immediately joined the School Stamp Club. He 'specialised'(!) in British, but soon was interested in Queen Victoria which he could not afford. The 2nd to last boy wearing short trousers in his school year, he religiously bought Post Office New Issues on Tuesdays with his pocket money. He soon found that he enjoyed swapping / trading stamps as much as collecting them. Aged 19, eschewing University he quickly found a philatelic career in London, leading to creating his own companies in stamps. Andrew has authored many internationally published Stamp 'Tips' articles, appearing on Local Radio and National TV promoting Philately with Alan Titchmarsh. Andrew's area of expertise is unusual – in so far as his grounding in collecting and wide philatelic knowledge has given him a deep understanding of Philately. He has studied Philately for the past 45 years, in combination with Commerce and Marketing Expertise, enabling him to create synergies in 'lifetime' interlinked Stamp Selling Systems, selling unit-priced stamps through to handling collections & Rarities up to £700,000 each. Today Andrew is fortunate to be co-owner with his Wife, of Universal Philatelic Auctions (aka UPA) – the Largest No Buyer's Premium Reducing-Estimate System Stamp Auction in the World, creating records selling stamps to 2,261 different bidders from 54 different countries in his latest auction. Andrew stopped collecting stamps aged 18 reasoning that his enjoyment of stamps would be in handling them and selling them…

ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV

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…but did it really? What was the real reason? How could a Dealer pay a higher price than a Collector? It doesn't make sense, does it? Collectors are customers. Customers usually pay the highest price, unless… for a Collector, this was…

Wrong Presentation ✗ ***Wrong Place*** ✗
therefore Wrong Price ✗

3 **Fast-forward 48 years later** to a British Empire collection, lot #1 in an International Stamp Auction – Estimated at £3,000, but we were the highest bidder at £21,000 – **YES** – some 7×higher. Including Buyer's Premium in the extraordinary sum of £4,788 we actually paid GBP£25,788= upon a £3,000 estimate… **however,** we broke it down into sets, singles, mini-collections etc. We made a profit. Some might say it found its price. Others may say:

Wrong Estimate ✗ ***Wrong Presentation*** ✗
Wrong Structure ✗ ***Wrong Protection of Price*** ✗

– Lucky for the seller that 2 well-healed bidders saw the potential value that day or it could have been given away… the seller could easily have lost out couldn't he? or she?

So, by un-peeling the layers of obfuscation, hopefully we can all agree:

The Secret is Simple –

it's ALL About: TIMING,

Plus the 3 Philatelic 'P's –

Presentation ✓ **Place** ✓ **and Price** ✓

4 **Understanding the problem…** I always remember the car trade had their own little 'bible' – Glass's Guide. I've no idea, I've not even looked - in this internet-dominated world, it may even have disappeared. Well, there's an insider Stamp Trade publication for Stamp Dealers called "The Philatelic Exporter". There's nothing that special about it – and you won't learn much or find massively reduced prices by subscribing – **BUT** – it is a forum, a paper focal point, a last 'bastion' in this on-line transparent world that we inhabit… whereby dealers (and auctioneers) can try and communicate with each other. I publish my own articles there…

Recently I discussed the outcome of my 10 years' simple research, asking dealers and auctioneers **'what is your biggest problem?'**

To a man, (why are we almost all men), they replied – **"my biggest problem is stock, if I can get more of the right stock I can sell it easily"**

Strange that, nobody ever asked me the same question back – because my answer would have been entirely different (and I don't treat it as a problem) – **I seek to satisfy collectors**

This is the reason why my company has such massive advertising. This is the reason why we spend up to 8% of turnover – up to £200,000 per annum in marketing costs. (Most dealers don't even sell £200K per annum).

5 **Why is that?** Because, as the world revolved **the Stamp Market, imperceptibly *Changed*, and incrementally – Massively**

So, although few will tell you this, it's clearly evident that the problem for most Sellers of Stamps today is no longer absent stock – but absent collectors in the place they choose to sell their stamps in. Simply put, other Dealers, Auctions, Stamp Fairs have not invested in marketing to have a strong Customer-core. To be fair, this is not true of all – but it is true of most – so that our nearest competitor 'Apex' had 800 bidders in a recent auction. In my most recent 20,000+ lot UPA 65th Auction we had 2,261 different bidders from 54 different countries, 95% of whom were Collectors. Some other well-advertised auctions only have 200 bidders (a high percentage of whom are dealers – so that, essentially they are Dealer-dominated auctions) – so that when you sell through them – you're paying up to 18% (including VAT) seller's commission and the buyer is paying up to 25% **and** more in Buyer's Premium, credit card fees, on-line bidding fee, delivery and insurance etc… **AND all of that so that your stamps may be sold, wait for it – TO DEALERS (and some collectors),** but Dealers, that naturally must make a profit to survive…

6 **Now, let's examine the cost implications – Example:** Your stamp collection sells in public auction for £800. Upon a 25% buyer's premium, the dealer pays £1,000 and it could be more. He breaks it into £2,000+ selling price (much lower and he'll go out of business). The auction charges you a seller's commission of up to 18% (VAT included) upon the £800 sale price. This is GBP£144. Therefore you receive approaching £656 – which is approximately 33% of the dealer's £2,000+/- retail selling price - **BUT… now that we have identified the problem…**

Isn't the Solution Staring us Right in The Face ?

7 **Why Pay an Auction to Sell to Dealers: Sell to Collectors instead ?** In our example with buyer's premium, sellers commission, lotting fees, extra credit card charges, VAT and even insurance - you're already being charged in different ways up to 40% of the selling price to sell, possibly or probably, **to the wrong person**.

Why not direct that 40% cost you're paying to sell to Collectors instead? Sounds good, so why hasn't this been done before ?

8 **Truth is, it *Has* been done before…** Sometimes the 'old' ways are the best ways aren't they? But in today's enthusiasm to obscure the obvious so that money may be taken, almost surreptitiously, in numerous different ways, (without us apparently noticing until we see the cheque in our pocket) – the transparent 'seller pays' has been deliberately 'obscured' – so much so that, **amazingly,** the latest 2017 European Auction Selling Legislation just introduced – now requires auctions that charge 'buyer's premiums' **to warn the buyer in advance.** Just imagine going into the petrol station, and being warned that the price you're paying to put fuel in you tank is not the real price, you have to pay a premium! Obviously, there would be an uproar…

9

How can you cut out the middleman and sell to Collectors instead? Well, I can think of two ways. 1). **DIY** - Do It Yourself selling on eBay. That may be fine for lower grade material – but, would you risk auctioning relatively unprotected rare material on eBay ? We don't and we're professionals, so we should know what we're doing. Or 2). Cut out the extra middle-man. **Use my company UPA, which reaches collectors instead.** Here's how it works: Continuing from our previous **Example**:

The auction sold your stamps to a dealer for £1,000 – but You received circa £656

UPA sells them to collectors for you for up to £2,000 – even after 40% commission you receive up to £1,200. Up to £544 more. Now that's amazing, isn't it?

10

Sounds Good Andrew, but Can You 'Deliver'? Obviously, nothing is as simple as that, and as we auction stamps to collectors some collections may 'break' to the example £2,000+/- but the stamps may be sold for more or less – especially as we reserve all lots at 20% below, (Estimate £2,000 = £1,600 reserve) and not everything sells first or even 2nd time so prices may come down… Naturally, it's not that straightforward for a dealer either – he may sell at a discount to 'move' stock **OR**, like many dealers he may be sitting on the same unsold stamps, that you see time and time again, in dealer's stocks years later and still at the same unattractive prices… So, I think it is more reasonable for you to expect up to 36% to 50% more, indirectly or directly via my **Collector's Secret Weapon:** Universal Philatelic Auctions, which moves material more quickly, by incrementally reducing estimate (and reserve) price in a structured selling system…

11

***Q.)* What is the Collector's 'Secret Weapon'?**

***A.)* It's called the Unique UPA Reducing Estimate System…**

This is a rather long explanation, I don't want to bore you, but 17 years ago, when my wife and I set up Universal Philatelic Auctions I detected that the stamp trade's biggest problem then was not what sold – ***but what didn't sell…*** So, because I didn't want to try to keep on offering the same either unsaleable or overpriced stock I created the unique UPA Reducing Estimate (and reserve) Selling System. Simply put, if a lot doesn't sell in the 1st auction we reduce the estimate (and reserve) by 11% and unlike other dealers and auctions **WE TELL YOU – 'US'** = once unsold. If unsold after the following auction we **reduce by a further 12%** and **WE TELL YOU 'US2'**, if unsold after a 3rd UPA auction we reduce by a further 13% and **WE TELL YOU 'US3'** and so on till the lot finds its price, is sold or virtually given away... ✓

12

Any Scientist will tell you that combinations of ingredients can produce powerful results. So we created the unique combination of my UPA Reducing Estimate System, married (in stone), with UPA's fair 'NO BUYER'S Premium' policy, PLUS each lot carries my total 'no quibble' guarantee – this formula is the reason why within the span of 4 auctions (one year)… 90%-95% of lots broken from a collection have sold. This Unique Philatelic Selling System **Formula** is the reason why we are the largest stamp auction in the UK today with 2,261 different bidders in my recent auction.

SCOTTISH & NORTH CONTACT
COTSWOLDS MIDLANDS & SOUTH CONTACT

Contact UPA: 01451 861 111

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL:

Dear Folk at UPA,

I've dealt with the public for 37 + years, and as both a consumer, and a businessman, I have created huge numbers of orders from all over the world from a complete range of suppliers from all aspects of our daily lives.

But I don't believe I have ever encountered such sensitivity, such kind thought, such understanding as I have with you in our initial meeting, our subsequent successful transaction, and now this.

I recall well the item you highlighted, and realise that this one item has such colossal personal value, I could never part with it.

It has been an absolute pleasure dealing with yourself, and I am more than willing for you to use this e-mail as commendation to others who may be thinking of disposing of their collection.

Many, many thanks for a memorable experience, and I will try to emulate your thought and care in my own business sphere.

Yours sincerely
D. E. B. Bath, UK

In Hindsight Dealers warned me 17 years ago that my idea wouldn't work. 17 years later I think I've proven that it does. (Reader: Please Request a complimentary UPA catalogue – using the contact details further below)

13

OK, Cut to the Chase Andrew, what's the offer? All of my Selling Systems are based upon **selling to Collectors Globally**, so that 95% of stamps sold by UPA are sold directly to Collectors. If you wish to benefit by up to 50% or more, depending upon your circumstance and type of material, by cutting out the middleman – then this offer may be for you. Generally 'time' is the enemy in our lives, and for most dealers not being able to sell stock. Now is the time to let 'time' do the 'heavy-lifting' and consider making 'time' work for you, so that at UPA you can make time your friend.

14

AND the SMALL PRINT? Some lots are too small in value for us to offer this system. Other lots may not be suited to selling in this manner (e.g. surplus mint British decimal stamps best used for postage) – especially if the market is heavily compromised by stock overhang in specific areas. Some Collectors will not wish to use time and systems to leverage price, others will want to agree a specific price and know that they are paid precisely this amount. No client is treated like a number and no client is forced like a square peg into a round hole.

15

OK, What Do I Do Next?

a). You contact UPA to discuss with Andrew or a highly-qualified Auction Valuer/Describer what you have to dispose of and your options bearing in mind your specific interests / requirements

b). If you wish, get a 2nd opinion, but investigate what type of auction / dealer you are dealing with. Is it a Dealer's auction with relatively few collectors? Can you see where / how the Dealer sells? If you can't easily see any pricelists or high quality selling catalogues – that Dealer may sell your stamps to other dealers…

c). Finally you ask U P A to collect your stamps, insure in transit for an estimated replacement retail value… ☎

16

What Happens then? A member of my Team telephones/e-mails you to confirm safe receipt. 'Overnight' valuations, unless simple, are rare. Valuing stamp collections that have taken tens of years to create takes time. Depending upon your priorities / timescale I, or an experienced member of my Team will contact you to discuss your requirements and the options available to you for the sale of your collection. Provided only that you feel well-informed and comfortable do we agree strategy

17

How Strong is the Stamp and Cover Market? Everybody knows that the strongest areas are GB and British Empire. Post-Independence / QEII material sells but if hinged at considerable discount. Mint hinged material pre 1952 is regarded as the industry 'norm' and therefore desirable – but genuine never-hinged commands a premium. Europe sells but at reduced levels, Americas is good, as generally is Asia but the 'heat' has come off China which is still good – and Russia which can still be good. East Europe is weaker. Overall, Rarities throughout can command their own price levels and real Postal History has good demand.

18

What Should I Do Next? Discuss your collection with U P A. Contact Andrew or an experienced member of his Team now… ☎

19

Guarantee: I want You to be absolutely Sure So If You're not sure we'll transport and return your stamps for FREE up to £200 in actual shipping cost at our expense. It sounds generous (and it is), but it's far less than the cost of driving 100+ miles each way and 3 to 6 hours in your home valuing your stamps

20

My Double Cast Iron Guarantee: We can do a better job valuing your stamps in our office than in your home. If you don't agree I'll pay you an extra £50 for you to pay somebody trusted to open the boxes and put your albums back, in the same place, on the shelf they came from.

21

Act NOW: Contact Andrew or an experienced member of his Team using the on-line selling form at our website, by fax, telephone or by mail. We'll work harder for you not to regret the decision to sell all or part of your collection… ☎

Andrew McGavin, Philatelic Expert,
Author, Managing Director
Universal Philatelic Auctions UPA

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On parade

Military uniforms have made frequent appearances on British stamps, sported by army, naval and air force personnel and by the royal family

■ **Report by Jeff Dugdale**

Naresh Jaiwala

For anyone with an interest in military affairs, uniforms can be an absorbing theme, encompassing both contemporary and historic liveries.

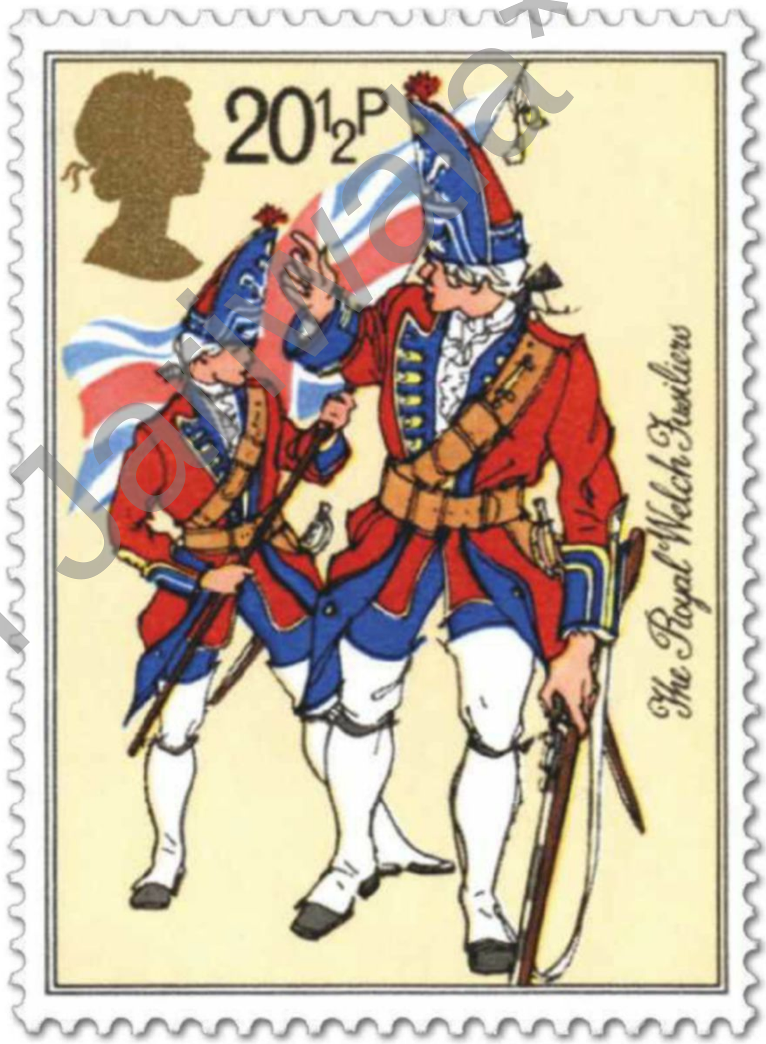
It first cropped up on a British stamp as early as 1937, when the Coronation design featured King George VI in uniform, and members of the royal family have appeared many times since then in ceremonial military dress.

In more recent times there have been at least 15 significant special issues featuring military personnel. Some of these were devoted specifically to the uniforms, others showed unnamed men in battle action and a few were portraits of named servicemen.

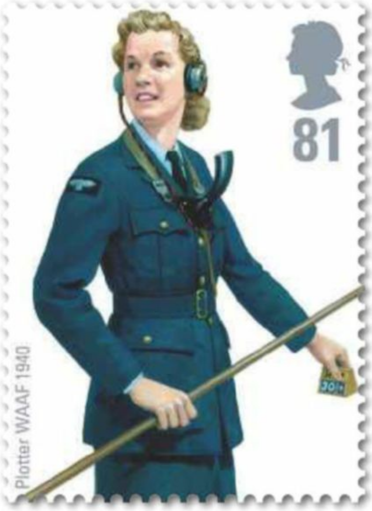
Army costume dominates, with naval gear a distant second.

The Army Uniforms issue of 1983 set the tone, covering a range of 350 years by means of illustrations by Eric Stemp.

The 16p value showed a musketeer and pikeman of the Royal Scots in 1633, the 20½p a fusilier and ensign of the Royal Welch Fusiliers from the mid-18th century, the 26p two riflemen of the Royal Green Jackets (the 95th Rifles) in 1805, the 28p a sergeant in khaki and a guardsman in full dress of the Irish Guards in 1900, and the 31p two paratroopers of the Parachute Regiment in 1983.



RIGHT: 1983 British Army Uniforms 20½p, illustrating Royal Welch Fusiliers in the mid-18th century



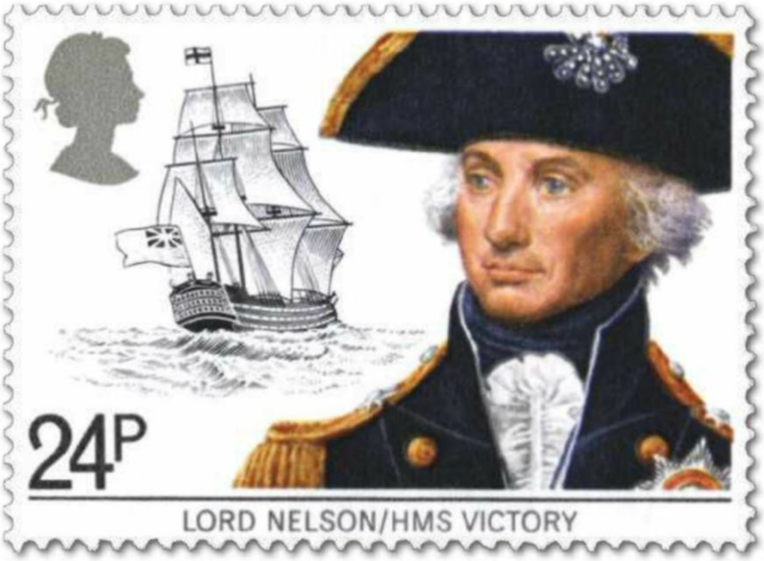
LEFT: 2008 RAF Uniforms 81p, showing a WAAF plotter during the Battle of Britain in 1940

The same approach was reprised in 2007-09, with a series of three sets of six stamps illustrated by Graham Turner, but this time bringing in the other armed services, and notable for acknowledging the roles played by women and ethnic minorities.

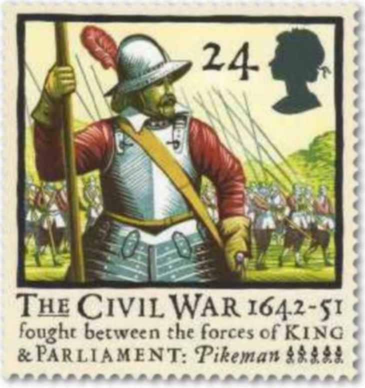
The British Army set again covered more than three centuries, showing a trooper from the Earl of Oxford's Horse in 1661, a grenadier from the Royal Regiment of Foot in 1704, a rifleman of the 95th Rifles (again) in 1813, an observer of the 5th Royal Field Artillery in 1917, a tank commander of the Royal Tank Regiment in 1944, and a non-commissioned officer of the Royal Military Police in 1999.

The Royal Air Force set had a much smaller range to cover, and progressing from an early pilot in 1918, through a Women's Air Auxiliary Force plotter in 1940, an Avro Lancaster's gunner in 1944, a Hawker Hunter's pilot in 1951 and a helicopter winchman in 1984, to a drum major in 2007.

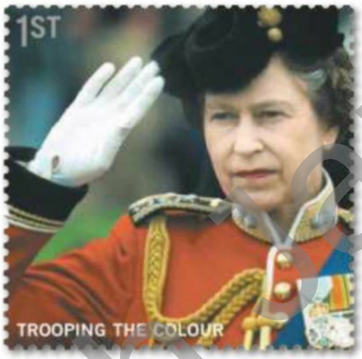
Royal Navy uniforms shown in the final set were those of an admiral in 1795, a Royal Marine in 1805, an able seaman in 1880, a



ABOVE: 1982 Maritime Heritage 24p, portraying Admiral Horatio Nelson in his Napoleonic Wars finery


24
THE CIVIL WAR 1642-51
fought between the forces of KING & PARLIAMENT: Pikeman

ABOVE: 1992 Civil War 24p, featuring a 17th-century pikeman in body armour



ABOVE: 2005 Trooping the Colour 1st class, showing Queen Elizabeth II in uniform as the Colonel-in-Chief of the Grenadier Guards

Women's Royal Naval Service officer in 1918, a captain in 1941 and a flight deck officer in 2009.

Uniforms also appear, as a matter or course, in sets commemorating historic conflicts. These include the 350th anniversary of the English Civil War in 1992, the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo in 2015, and the 50th and 75th anniversaries of D-Day in 1994 and 2019.

In these cases most of the models were anonymous, but a number of named figures have also been honoured by portraits in uniform.

The 'top brass' includes such celebrated leaders as admirals Horatio Nelson and Jackie Fisher in the 1982 Maritime Heritage set, and air marshals Hugh Trenchard and Hugh Dowding in the 1986 Royal Air Force set.

The issue noting 150 years of the Victoria Cross of 2006 portrayed six war heroes in uniform, two years after a set marking the same anniversary of the Crimean War had been based on photographs of six men from various ranks.

> *'Army uniforms dominate, with naval costume coming a distant second'*

Last but not least, the First World War series consciously chose ordinary soldiers to portray in 2014, 2015 and 2018.

More army uniforms, often of the more flamboyant ceremonial kind, can be seen in the 1989 Lord Mayor's Show, 1992 Gilbert & Sullivan Operas, 1997 All The Queen's Horses and 2005 Trooping The Colour issues, amongst others.

Naval uniforms can be seen on stamps of 1999 and 2018, and all three services together in 1971.

In addition to military uniforms, you could widen the theme by including those sported by the Salvation Army religious order in 1965, by scouts and guides in 1982, 2007 and 2010, by the police in 1976 and 1979, by the fire and rescue services in 2009, by postmen in 1979 and 2016, and by nurses in 1971, 1976, 1999 and 2017. ■

CHECKLIST

DATE	ISSUE	STAMPS
1937	Coronation	1
1970	Anniversaries	1
1971	Anniversaries	2
1972	British Polar Explorers	2
1977	Christmas	1
1982	Maritime Heritage	3
1983	British Army Uniforms	5
1986	Royal Air Force	3
1989	Lord Mayor's Show	5
1992	40th Anniversary of Accession	1
1992	English Civil War	4
1992	Gilbert & Sullivan	1
1994	D-Day	3
1994	Four Seasons: Summerime	1
1995	Peace & Freedom	1
1997	All The Queen's Horses	4
1997	Royal Golden Wedding	2
1999	The Soldiers' Tale	1
2003	50th Anniversary of the Coronation	3
2004	Crimean War	6
2005	Trooping the Colour	6
2006	Victoria Cross	6
2007	British Army Uniforms	6
2008	RAF Uniforms	6
2009	Royal Navy Uniforms	6
2010	Britain Alone	3
2010	Dunkirk	3
2012	House of Windsor	2
2012	Royal Diamond Jubilee	1
2014	Working Horses	3
2014	Remarkable Lives	1
2014	First World War, 1st issue	2
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2015	Battle of Britain	5
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2018	Captain Cook & Endeavour Voyage	1
2018	First World War, 5th issue	1
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2019	Queen Victoria	1
2019	D-Day	9

×Nareshkariwala×

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Nareen Jariwala

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UK & WORLDWIDE EXHIBITION DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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Send details to What's On, *Stamp Magazine*, MyTimeMedia Ltd,
Suite 25, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF.
E-mail: guy.thomas@mytimemedia.com

JULY 6

UK

Midpex 2019

Venue: Warwickshire Event Centre, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 1XN.
Contact: Steven Harrison, 56 Woodberry Drive, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B76 2RH
sharrison500@btinternet.com
www.sites.google.com/site/midpex

JULY 31-AUGUST 4

SINGAPORE

Singpex 2019 International Stamp Exhibition

Venue: Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, 1 Raffles Boulevard, Suntec City, Singapore 039593.
Contact: Association of Singapore Philatelists
Tel: +65 6261 6688
Fax: +65 6265 5998
aspsingapore1989@gmail.com
www.singpex.com

AUGUST 23-25

NORWAY

Nordia 2019

Venue: Quality Hotel, Grålum, Sarpsborg, Norway.
Contact: Nordia 2019, Postboks 2700, St Hanshaugen, N-0131 Oslo, Norway
mail@nordia2019.no
www.nordia2019.no

SEPTEMBER 11-14

UK

Autumn Stampex

Venue: Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH.
Contact: Philatelic Traders Society, PO Box 290, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 9AX
Tel: 01342 830225
Fax: 01342 837888
info@thepts.net
www.thephilatelictraderssociety.co.uk

OCTOBER 11-13

IRELAND

Stampa 2019 Irish National Stamp Exhibition

Venue: Griffith College Conference Centre, South Circular Road, Dublin 8.
Contact: Stampa, PO Box 12624, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, Republic of Ireland
info@stampa.ie
www.stampa.ie

OCTOBER 18-20

AUSTRIA

Övebria 2019

Venue: Hall 4, Arena Nova, Rudolf Diesel Strasse 30, 2700 Wiener Neustadt, Austria.
Contact: Friedrich Windbichler
Tel: +43 1 587 64 69
Fax: +43 1 587 7026
office.voeph@voeph.at
www.voeph.at

OCTOBER 24-26

GERMANY

Sindelfingen International Stamp Fair

Venue: Messe Sindelfingen, Mahdentalstrasse 116, 71065 Sindelfingen, Germany.
Contact: Jan Billion
Tel: +49 210 250 675
kontakt@mess-sindelfingen.de
www.messe-sindelfingen.de

NOVEMBER 22-24

ITALY

European Championship of Thematic Philately

Venue: Fiera di Verona, Viale del Lavoro, Verona, Italy.
Contact: Federazione fra le Società Filateliche Italiane
commissario@fsfi.it
www.expo.fsfi.it

NOVEMBER 28-30

MONACO

MonacoPhil 2019

Venue: Musée des Timbres et des Monnaies, 11 Terrasses de Fontvieille, 98000 Monaco .
Contact: Office des Emissions de Timbres-Poste, 23 Avenue Albert II, 98050 Monaco
Tel: +377 98 98 41 41
oetp@gouv.mc
www.monacophil.eu

MARCH 19-22

NEW ZEALAND

NZ 2020

Venue: Ellerslie Event Centre, Ellerslie Racecourse, 80 Ascot Avenue, Remuera, 1050 Auckland, New Zealand.
Contact: Bob Gibson, NZ 2020 Stamp Exhibition Inc, PO Box 58139, Whitby, Porirua 5245, New Zealand
Tel: +654 4 234 7218
secretary@nz2020.nz
www.nz2020.nz

MARCH 28-29

FINLAND

SFEx 2020

Venue: Kaapelitehdas, Tallberginkatu 1, 00180 Helsinki, Finland.
Contact: SFEx 2020
www.sfex2020.info

MAY 2-9

UK

London 2020 International Stamp Exhibition

Venue: Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH.
Contact: London 2020
admin@london2020.co
www.london2020.co

JUNE 25-28

GERMANY

Ostropa 2020 Eastern European Stamp Exhibition

Venue: Russisches Haus, Friedrichstrasse 176-179, 10117 Berlin, Germany.
Contact: Frank Blechschmidt, General Commissioner, Dorfstrasse 68a, Bermsgrün, D-08340 Schwarzenberg, Germany.
blechschmidt@ostropa2020.de
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ABOVE: The stunning city of Singapore has come a long way since it was the epicentre of the Straits Settlements. Visit for the Singpex 2019 International Exhibition

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JULY 10
AJH STAMPS
Venue: The Dunkenhalgh Hotel & Spa, Clayton-le-Moors, Lancashire BB5 5JP.
Contact: Tel: 01254 393740
sales@ajhstamps.co.uk
www.ajhstamps.co.uk

JULY 10
CHERRYSTONE
Venue: Suite 316, 119 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019, USA.
Contact: Tel: +1 212 977 7734
info@cherrystoneauctions.com
www.cherrystoneauctions.com

JULY 10-11
SPINK UK
Philatelic Collectors' Series Sale
Michael Lewis collection of Malta
Venue: 69 Southampton Row, London WC1B 4ET.
Contact: Tel: 020 7563 4000
info@spink.com
www.spink.com

JULY 17
ATHENS AUCTIONS
Venue: Pindarou 7, 10671 Athens, Greece.
Contact: Tel: +30 210 325 0173
www.athensauctions.gr

JULY 18
FISCHER
Venue: Joachimstrasse 7, D-53113 Bonn, Germany.
Contact: Tel: +49 228 26 31 30
www.reinhardfischerauktionen.de

JULY 23
CLASSICPHIL
Venue: Hardtgasse 25/14, 1190 Vienna, Austria.
Contact: Tel: +43 1 890 0638
office@classicphil.com
www.classicphil.com

JULY 26
MARTELLO
Venue: The Holiday Inn, Canterbury Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8QQ.
Contact: Tel: 01303 269712
info@martelloauctions.com
www.martelloauctions.com

JULY 31
BRIAN REEVE
Venue: 2 College Fields, Prince Georges Road, London SW19 2PT.
Contact: Tel: 020 8672 6702
www.brian-reeve.com

AUGUST 2
SPINK SINGAPORE
Tan Ah Ee collection of India used in the Straits Settlements
Venue: 17-01 Singapore Land Tower, 50 Raffles Place, 048623 Singapore.
Contact: Tel: 020 7563 4000
nstartup@spink.com
www.spink.com

AUGUST 3
SOMERSET
Venue: Hill Farm, Hemyock, Cullompton, Devon EX15 3UZ.
Contact: Tel: 01823 681358
www.somersetstampauctions.com

AUGUST 7
WARWICK & WARWICK
Venue: The Court House, Jury Street, Warwick CV34 4EW.
Contact: Tel: 01926 499031
info@warwickandwarwick.com
www.warwickandwarwick.com

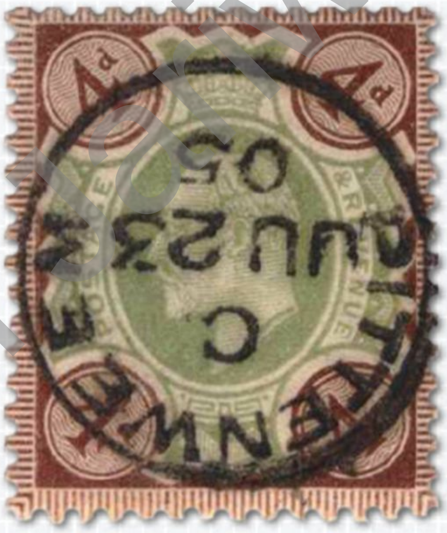
AUGUST 10
BIL & CO
Venue: Washingborough Community Centre, Fen Road, Washingborough, Lincoln LN4 1AB.
Contact: Tel: 01400 230769
www.bilandco.co.uk

LOT TO BE DESIRED

The Classicphil auction in Vienna on July 23 includes a range of superb and unusual postmarks, including many that will interest Great Britain collectors.

Amongst the Queen Victoria offerings there's a Glasgow mark on a 5s rose, a Liverpool mark on a 1½d rose-red, a Helensburgh mark on a 1d red, a Dungarvan mark on a 1s green, and a Barnstaple mark on a 9d purple and blue, for example.

From the King Edward VII era, a stand-out lot is this 4d green and brown with a spectacular cancellation of Pittenweem, Fife, on June 23, 1905. It has a starting price of €50 (about £45).

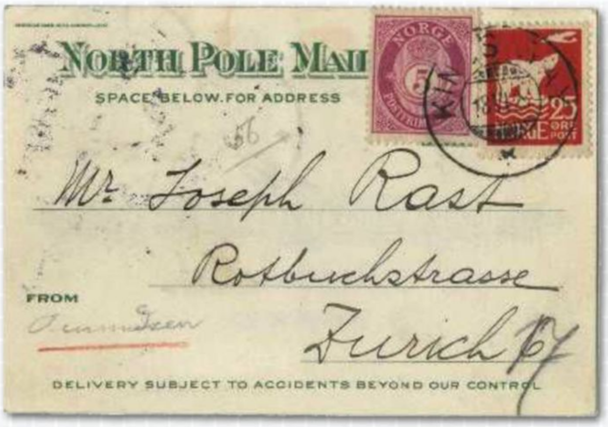


LOT TO BE DESIRED

The Reinhard Fischer auction on July 18 includes a postcard from the 1926 Amundsen-Ellsworth transpolar flight.

Led by the Norwegian adventurer Roald Amundsen (who would later lead the first team to reach the South Pole on foot) and the American explorer Lincoln Ellsworth, this expedition on the airship *Norge* was the first voyage of any kind to the North Pole.

Philately helped to raise the necessary funding, with Norway issuing a special set of stamps in 1925 and the American Bank Note Company printing special 'North Pole Mail' postcards. This example, addressed to Zurich, has Norwegian 25ø and 5ø stamps cancelled at Kings Bay in Svalbard on June 18, 1925. The starting price is €70 (about £60).



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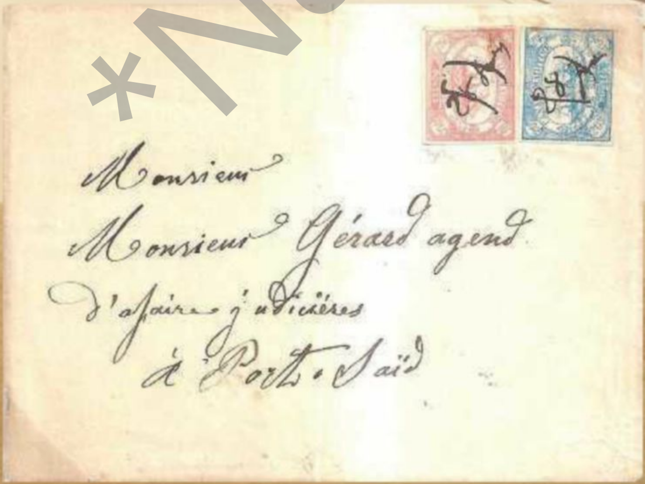

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Suite 25, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF.
E-mail: guy.thomas@mytimemedia.com

JULY 12
LONDON
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, Russell Square, WC1H 0DG.
Time: 9am-4pm
Contact: Kate Puleston
Tel: 020 8946 4489

JULY 13
CHICHESTER
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: Donnington Parish Hall, Stockbridge Road, Donnington, PO19 8QR.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: Chris Rapley
Tel: 07711 677760

COLWYN BAY
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: Ysgol Eirias, Eirias Road, LL29 7SP.
Time: 9.30am-3pm
Contact: Steve Chapman
Tel: 01745 826434

DERBY
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Nunsfield House Community Hall, 33 Boulton Road, Alvaston, DE24 0FD.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

TELFORD
(stamps, postal history, postcards, coins)
Venue: Belmont Community Hall, off Tan Bank car park, Wellington, TF1 1HJ.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Bob Pilkington
Tel: 01299 211737

JULY 14
CHESTERFIELD
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Chester Street Club, Chester Street, S40 1DL.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Howard Hatton
Tel: 0161 766 9031

WOKINGHAM
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St Crispin's Centre, London Road, RG40 1SR.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

JULY 17
EAST GRINSTEAD
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: Chequer Mead Arts Centre, De La Warr Road, RH19 3BS.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Malcolm Green
Tel: 01342 327554

JULY 19-20
YORK
(stamps, coins)
Venue: The Grandstand, York Racecourse, York YO23 1EX.
Time: Friday 11am-6pm, Saturday 10am-4pm
Contact: Kate Puleston
Tel: 020 8946 4489

JULY 20
ADDLESTONE
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Community Centre, Garfield Road, KT15 2NJ.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Milton
Tel: 01895 637283

BRIGHTON
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Church of the Good Shepherd Hall, 272 Dyke Road, Hove, BN1 5AE.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

DOVER
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Biggin Hall, Biggin Lane, CT16 1BD.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Keith & Jan Shepherd
Tel: 07729 967206

EXETER
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: America Hall, De La Rue Way, Pinhoe, EX4 8PX.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Michael Hale
Tel: 01749 677669

HULL
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St James Centre, 169 First Lane, Hessle, HU13 9EY
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

JULY 21
BOWDON
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: Mercure Hotel, Langham Road, WA14 2HT.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Howard Hatton
Tel: 0161 766 9031

DRONFIELD
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Coal Aston Village Hall, Coal Aston, S18 3AY.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

JULY 27
BEXHILL-ON-SEA
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St Martha's Church Hall, Cooden Sea Road, Little Common, TN39 4SL.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

BRISTOL
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Shirehampton Public Hall, Station Road, Shirehampton, BS11 9TX.
Time: 9.30am-4pm
Contact: Kevin Noble Fairs
Tel: 07599 001102

EALING
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Kingsdown Baptist Church Hall, Northfield Avenue, W13 9PR.
Time: 9am-1pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

MORLEY
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: St Mary's Church Hall, Commercial Street, LS27 8HZ.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

NORTHAMPTON
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: The Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, NN4 0RZ.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

JULY 28
BRACKNELL
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: British Red Cross Centre, 21 Martins Lane, RG12 9EN.
Time: 9am-1pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

DONCASTER
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Park Social Club, Eden Grove Road, Edenthorpe, DN3 2LS.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

PETERBOROUGH
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: The Holiday Inn, Thorpe Wood, PE3 6SG.
Time: 10am-3pm
Contact: Richard Lewis
Tel: 01945 700594

SOUTHPORT
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: The Royal Clifton Hotel, Promenade, PR8 1RB.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Howard Hatton
Tel: 0161 766 9031

AUGUST 3
BECKENHAM
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: Azelia Halls, Croydon Road, BR3 4DA.
Time: 9am-3pm
Contact: Ray McQuade
Tel: 020 8395 9285

LEICESTER
(stamps)
Venue: Derby Room, The Holiday Inn, St Nicholas Circle, LE1 5LX.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: John Suschitzky
Tel: 0116 235 0441

AUGUST 3
NORWICH
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: Hewett Academy, Cecil Road, NR1 2PL
Time: 10am-3.30pm
Contact: Ian Billings, Norfolk & Norwich Philatelic Society
Tel: 08450 090939

RUISLIP
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: Methodist Church Hall, Ickenham Road, HA4 7BZ.
Time: 10am-4.30pm
Contact: David Milton
Tel: 01895 637283

AUGUST 4
BOTLEY
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Women's Institute, North Hinksey Lane, OX2 0LT.
Time: 9am-1.30pm
Contact: T Brittain
Tel: 07957 158299

BOWDON
(stamps, postal history, postcards)
Venue: Mercure Hotel, Langham Road, WA14 2HT.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Howard Hatton
Tel: 0161 766 9031

AUGUST 9
LONDON
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, Russell Square, WC1H 0DG.
Time: Friday 9am-4pm
Contact: Kate Puleston
Tel: 020 8946 4489

AUGUST 10
DERBY
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Nunsfield House Community Hall, 33 Boulton Road, Alvaston, DE24 0FD.
Time: 9.30am-3.30pm
Contact: H V Johnson & Co
Tel: 01909 562927

AUGUST 11
CHESTERFIELD
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Chester Street Club, Chester Street, S40 1DL.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: Howard Hatton
Tel: 0161 766 9031

UCKFIELD
(stamps, postal history)
Venue: Ridgewood Village Hall, New Road, Ridgewood, TN22 5TG.
Time: 10am-4pm
Contact: M J Perriman
Tel: 01903 244875

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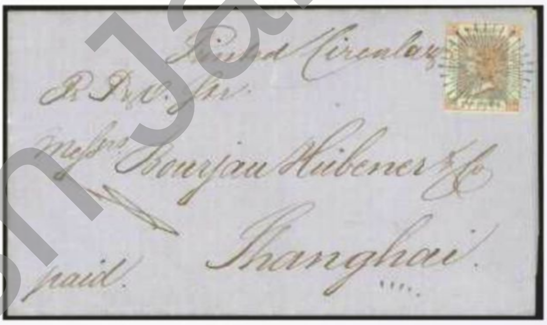
CHINA
大清郵政
當壹圓
1 dollar.

S.G. 95
Realised
£557,000

全国山河一片红
无产阶级文化大革命的全面胜利万岁！

1968 unissued large format
"Whole Country is Red"
Realised £905,000

S.G. M1595
Realised
£162,500



1865 circular from Yokohama bearing
Hong Kong 2c. cancelled by "sunburst"
Realised £60,400

S.G. 51e
Realised
£17,500

1885 Ichang Large Dragon - U.S.
Postal Agency combination cover
Realised £348,200

1880 Great Britain - China Large Dragon
incoming combination cover
Realised £139,300

Macao 1913 local
overprint on 10a
Realised £40,700

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To include an event in this listing, we need at least two months' notice. Send details to What's On, *Stamp Magazine*, MyTimeMedia Ltd, Suite 25, Eden House, Enterprise Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HF.
E-mail: guy.thomas@mytimemedia.com

SELECTED UK PHILATELIC SOCIETY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JULY 10
BROMLEY & BECKENHAM PS
Refugees in Denmark 1945-49 by Bertha King
Denmark & The Napoleonic Wars by Chris King
Venue: Public Hall, Bromley Road, Beckenham BR3 5JE.
Time: 7.30pm
Contact: David Rennie
Tel: 020 8778 7001

JULY 15
SOUTH MIDLANDS SC
Clothing & Materials
Venue: Barford Memorial Hall, Church Street, Barford, CV35 8EN.
Time: 1.30pm
Contact: John Gledhill
Tel: 01789 842112

JULY 17
WAKEFIELD PS
Open Forum Meeting
Venue: Standbridge Lane Community Centre, Kettlethorpe WF2 7NP.
Time: 7pm
Contact: Philip Reynolds
Tel: 07805 509469

JULY 23
SPALDING & DISTRICT SC
Show & Tell
Venue: The Frasier Room, Gosberton Road, Surfleet, PE11 4AB.
Time: 7.30pm
Contact: Derek Pollard
Tel: 01778 426904

AUGUST 2
HERNE BAY PS
Club Auction
Venue: Herne Bay United Church Hall, High Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5NG.
Time: 7.30pm
Contact: John F G Mills
Tel: 01227 787070

AUGUST 6
ROYAL SUTTON COLDFIELD PS
How Inventive Can You Be?
Venue: Sutton Coldfield Methodist Church, South Parade, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1QY.
Time: 10.30am
Contact: Steven Harrison
Tel: 0121 313 0671

AUGUST 6
SCARBOROUGH PS
Members' Displays: Letters S, T & U
Venue: Scarborough Library, Vernon Road, Scarborough, YO11 2NN.
Time: 7pm
Contact: Chris Phillips
Tel: 01723 368475

AUGUST 7
GREAT BRITAIN PS
Members' Displays
Venue: Stanley Gibbons, 399 Strand, London WC2R 0LX.
Time: 6pm
Contact: Phil Waud
Tel: 07484 629171

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON

ABOVE: Past Presidents of the RPSL, gathered around the bust of the Society's first President Sir Daniel Cooper, are (clockwise from back left) Alan Moorcroft, Christopher Harman, Gavin Fryer, Patrick Pearson, Frank Walton, David Beech, Jane Moubray, Alan Huggins, Brian Trotter and Chris King

As part of its 150th anniversary celebrations, the Royal Philatelic Society London put on a special display of material from the Royal Philatelic Collection and from Past Presidents.

In an eclectic offering, Patrick Pearson (President from 1988-90) displayed Norfolk Postal History, Alan Huggins (1990-92) the postal stationery of Mauritius, Jane Moubray (1996-98) the 1841 Twopenny Blue, Gavin Fryer (2000-03) the Kingdom of Denmark, David Beech (2003-05) research books and articles, Christopher Harman (2005-07) the early issues of Peru, Alan Moorcroft (2009-11) the Channel Islands, Colchester and Sicily, Brian Trotter (2011-13) the postal history of southern Africa, Chris King (2013-15) Copenhagen telephone kiosks, and Frank Walton (2015-17) the Wilding defiitives.

Members attending the meeting were treated to a Victorian tea during the afternoon, in what was one of the last events to be held at 41 Devonshire Place in Marylebone, before the Society's move to 15 Abchurch Lane in the City of London.

HEREFORD & MID WALES PS

Hereford & Mid Wales Philatelic Society hosted prestigious speakers at both its April and May meetings.

In April, Wendy Buckle came from Bournemouth to display her collection of Latvia, including the fascinating stamps printed on the back of out-of-date maps and invalidated banknotes after independence in 1918, when this heavily forested country with a significant timber industry was experiencing a serious paper shortage.

In May, Yvonne Wheatley visited from Leeds, presenting a history of Czechoslovakia, from its inception (also in 1918) to its peaceful dissolution in 1993. Philatelic interest included the stamps resulting from the annexations of the Sudetenland by Germany, Carpatho-Ukraine by Hungary and the Zaolzie region by Poland in 1938-39.

The society usually meets at St Martin's Hall in Ross Road, Hereford, on the first Wednesday of the month, from September to July. Newcomers are welcome.

For more details contact Janet Nelson.
E-mail: fascinatinglady@hotmail.com

ABOVE: Wendy Buckle is thanked for her display by President Frank Bennett

Every care is taken to ensure the details published are accurate, but we cannot be responsible for any errors or cancellations. You are advised to check with the event organisers before setting out.

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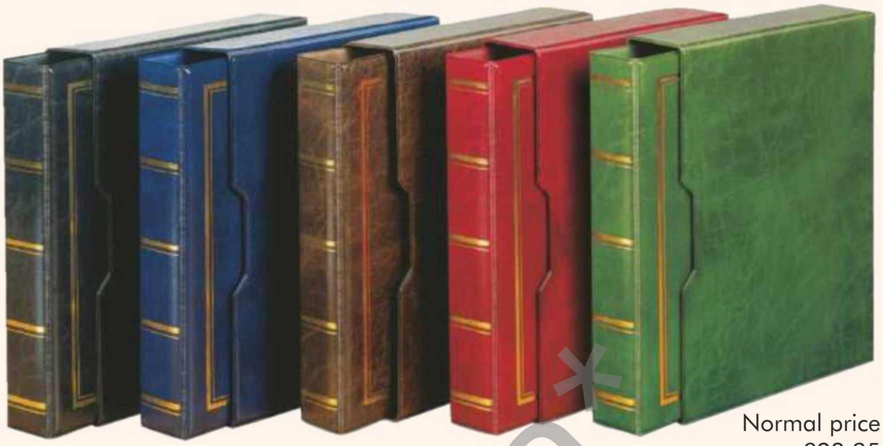

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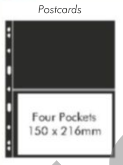
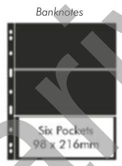
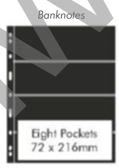

Postcards
Four Pockets
150 x 216mm

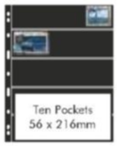
RAG2S


Banknotes
Six Pockets
98 x 216mm

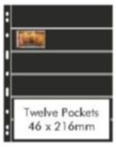
RAG3S


Banknotes
Eight Pockets
72 x 216mm

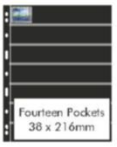
RAG4S


Ten Pockets
56 x 216mm

RAG5S


Twelve Pockets
46 x 216mm

RAG6S


Fourteen Pockets
38 x 216mm

RAG7S

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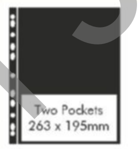
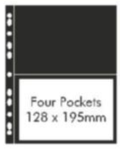
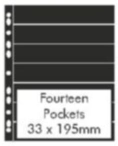

Two Pockets
263 x 195mm

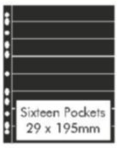
RCV1S


Four Pockets
128 x 195mm

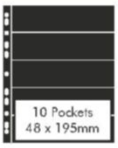
RCV2S


Fourteen Pockets
33 x 195mm

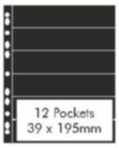
RCV7S


Sixteen Pockets
29 x 195mm

RCV8S


10 Pockets
48 x 195mm

RCV5S


12 Pockets
39 x 195mm

RCV6S

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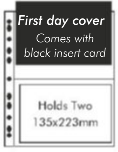
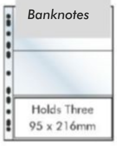
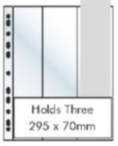

First day cover
Comes with
black insert card
Holds Two
135x223mm

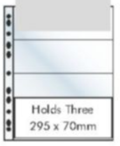
RAMM2A


Banknotes
Holds Three
95 x 216mm

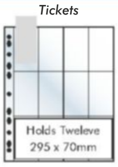
RAMM3


Holds Three
295 x 70mm

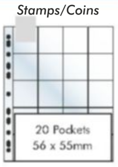
RAMM3V


Holds Three
295 x 70mm

RAMM4V


Tickets
Holds Twelve
295 x 70mm

RAMM12


Stamps/Coins
20 Pockets
56 x 55mm

RAMM20

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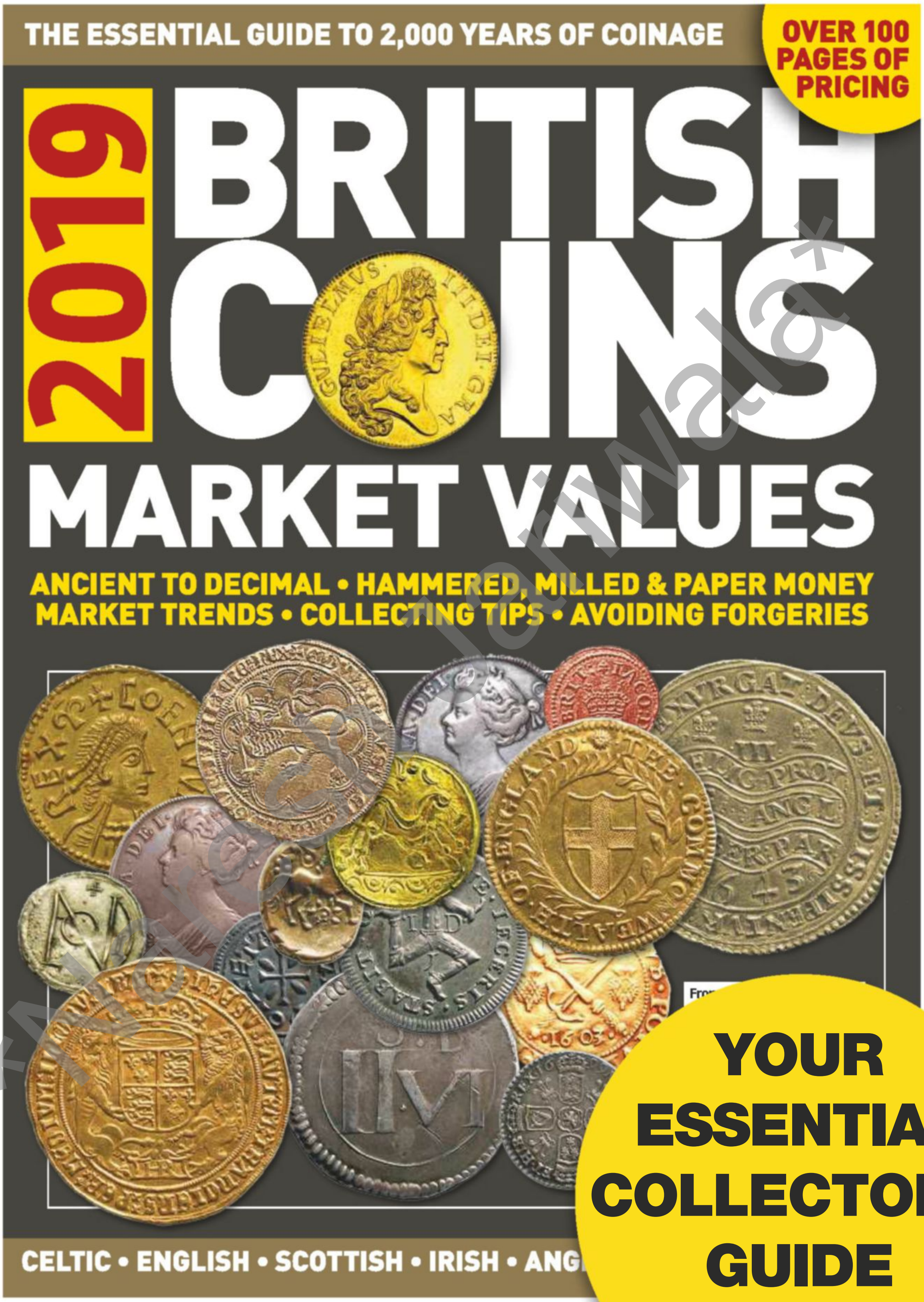
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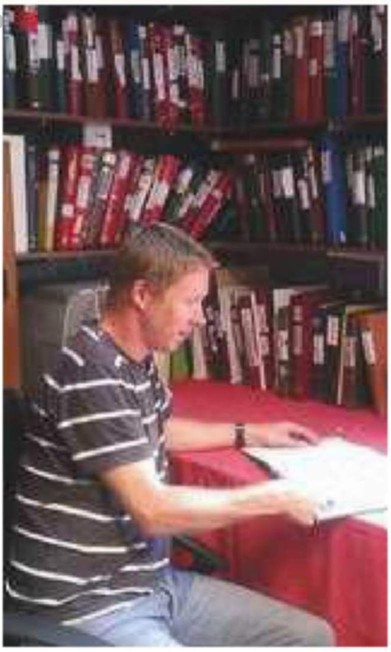

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Flight for justice

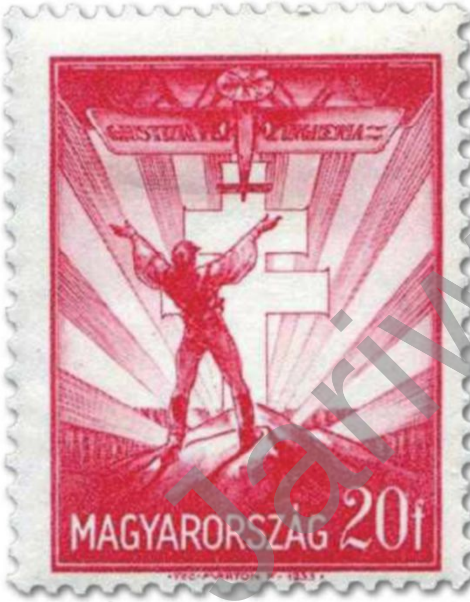
Why was a 1933 stamp treated as invalid by neighbouring countries? The answer involves Hungarian aviation pioneers, a British press baron and an Italian dictator

Report by John Winchester

The Treaty of Trianon, which Hungary was obliged to sign in 1920 after defeat in World War I, was a disaster for the nation. It entailed the loss of two-thirds of its territory and half its population to Czechoslovakia, Romania and Yugoslavia.

Resentment festered throughout the inter-war period, and attracted much sympathy from influential figures abroad, not least Lord Rothermere, the British proprietor of the *Daily Mail* and *Daily Mirror* newspapers, and Benito Mussolini, the dictator of Italy.

When Hungarian aviators György Endresz and Sándor Magyar announced an attempt make the first flight from North America to Hungary in 1931, they were chasing a $10,000 prize put up by Rothermere, who encouraged them to promote their nation's grievance. Their Lockhead Sirius monoplane which successfully completed the challenge was duly named *Justice For Hungary*.



ABOVE: Hungary 1933 Airmail 20f red, showing the aircraft gifted to the country by Benito Mussolini

Alas, when the plane was invited to a grand reunion of Atlantic flyers hosted by Mussolini several months later, it crashed on the approach to Rome, killing Endresz and his stand-in co-pilot. As a supporter of Hungary's cause, however, Mussolini presented the country with a replacement aircraft, a Fiat BR3 biplane with its name emblazoned in Italian on the underside of its wings.

The lower values in Hungary's 1933 airmail set commemorated both the translatlatic flight and the Italian gift. On the 10f and 16f values, you can just make out the word 'Justice' on the fuselage of the monoplane; on the less subtle 20f and 40f values, you can read 'Giustizia per l'Ungheria' on the biplane as it soars over a patriarchal cross.

No wonder letters posted with this stamp to neighbouring countries were often returned undelivered. ■

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Creating a (Successful) Stamp

Hi,
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'We canvassed trade opinion – Dealers told us it wouldn't work!'

It was 1999. We had a good stamp business. I'd started by supplying stamps on approval. In fact, just like Victor Kiam of Remington Razors fame, I bought the stamp 'Approvals' Company called Omniphil that sent me stamps on approval when I was in my teens, but that's another story...

After a few years I decided that a 'one-legged' stamp approvals business, should stand on two feet(!), so I added a 'Buy One, Take One Free' off-paper world mixtures department which soon became a big success thanks to a loyal following of collectors who loved sorting through unsorted mixtures, and still do.

Meanwhile buying stamp collections at auction had created a pleasant problem. We had accumulated better stamps which we felt were too valuable to be sent to clients on approval through the mail. Determining how best to handle these my wife and I came to the conclusion that just like a stool, a good stamp business should not stand on two feet alone... so we decided to add a third leg to our stamp business ...

... *Yes*, a stamp auction, which (you may have already guessed) had to be unlike any other by including the best features of other auctions, whilst eliminating the worst features such as 'caveat emptor' (buyer beware) and buyer's premiums which instinctively, we reasoned not to be in the best interests of collectors. We wrote to existing stamp auctions for their latest catalogues which we thoroughly analysed. And soon, we named our new stamp auction - Universal Philatelic Auctions and christened it UPA.

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We canvassed trade opinion – dealers told us

continued overleaf ☞

Auction Unlike Any Other

It all started with the two-legged stool; I remember the conversation why we wanted to start a Stamp Auction like NO other…

from inside back cover
– see overleaf

it wouldn't work… BUT, sometimes, just some times …when you're told something won't work that's the time to do it, isn't it?

650 different bidders in our 1st UPA auction almost 20 years ago

2,002 different bidders in my latest 73rd UPA auction, from 47 different Countries

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